

**Minutes of the Littlebourne Parish Council Annual Parish Meeting held on
Thursday 7 March 2013, at Littlebourne War Memorial Hall from 7.00pm**

1. Present

- Parish Councillors Viv Spratt, Mick Giles, Geoffrey Barrett, Betty Jeffries, Mike Gallagher, Geof Welch, Cate Reid and Pamela Evans.
- City Councillor Brian Staley and Kent County Councillor Michael Northey.
- Guest Speakers, Community First Responders from the South East Coast Ambulance – Paul Caldwell, Ryan Truelove and Sian Sidders
- KCC Community Wardens Jon Lodge, Gary Moore and supervisor Michelle Weston.
- 25 Residents and 2 Non-residents

2. Welcome and Apologies

Councillor Spratt welcomed everyone to the meeting, thanking them for attending, and thanked the ladies who prepared the refreshments in the kitchen, and Derek Whittaker for putting the tables and chairs out for the meeting.

Apologies for absence were received from Parish Cllr Ken Shaw (abroad), and residents Jenny and Bob Anderson, Roz Arman, Reverend Chris Wilkinson, and Sue Minnall.

3. Minutes of last year's Annual Parish Meeting of 8 March 2012

Cllr Spratt advised copies had been made available to the meeting and had been published on the parish council's website. Resident Peter Pilbeam proposed and resident Daphne Kelk seconded that the minutes of last year's Annual Parish Meeting held on the 8 March 2012 were a true record of that meeting.

4. Report on the past year by Littlebourne Parish Council Chairman,

Cllr Vivienne Spratt MBE - Councillor Spratt read her chairman's report below to the meeting.

Welcome to Parishioners, Cllrs Northey and Staley and to our speaker Paul Caldwell from First Responders. Also to Michelle Weston area supervisor for our community wardens and Jon Lodge our current community Warden and Gary Moore a community warden who will be covering Littlebourne from 1 April.

A massive **thanks to our Councillors**, who have had an extremely heavy work load this year, in particular with regard to Planning Proposals, the localism bill and the very challenging finance situation that we have had to face for the future. I would like to thank them for diligence and stamina for staying the course, especially the Finance Committee. Throughout the year, some councillors have had to work extremely hard on their responsibilities, as so much more is now being passed to Parish level, and who are, of course, all volunteers. It has been a privilege to work with such dedicated people.

More thanks go to all the other **volunteers in the village** who are too numerous to mention, they run clubs and organisations and help out at many functions. We are indeed, very fortunate to have these people who are so generous with their time.

Whilst giving my thanks, I would like to take this opportunity to **thank our departing Clerk Amanda Sparkes**, who has done a sterling job for Littlebourne, in re-organising our filing systems and archives, updating all systems and bringing us in to the twenty first century with our technology. She will be leaving us on 28th March. It is from 1st April that Gail Hubbard will be taking over here, after having a month's induction with Amanda which started last week. **I would like to welcome Gail** on

board, we are fortunate in employing Gail, who already has Parish Clerk experience working for Bekesbourne and Patribourne. She will continue to work for them, as she will be doing just 16 hours a week for us. She was one of 31 Candidates that applied for the position.

We can see by the attendance tonight how successful our quarterly **LPC News** is in keeping parishioners informed and together with our website, we are very proud of our provision of information to the village. We now have some advertisers in the LPC News and will investigate advertising on our website in the future, to make them both self supporting, to alleviate costs to the parish. I would particularly like to thank Cllr. Mike Gallagher for inputting all the information and keeping the website up to date. As you receive so much information from these Medias, I will just fill a few gaps with some of the items of interest that we deal with. We are more than willing to let you know details of anything that may be of interest to you and I would like to remind you that every Parish Council meeting is open to the public and you are welcome to attend.

Ellen Court, was completed last April; it is a lovely development that Littlebourne Parish Council fought very hard for, it was not without its teething problems, which are gradually being worked through. Of course it was well over subscribed. Littlebourne and the close village's residents would have come high on the allocation list but it was available to all who qualified on Canterbury City Councils Housing List, so we welcome a number of new residents to the area. A resident of Ellen Court, suggested a gate into Turners Orchard from the footpath backing onto the residences would be advantageous to its residents, this has now been provided by The Hall Trust Committee who manage Turners Orchard (not the responsibility of the Parish Council.)

Next the **Lighting of The footpath** that runs along the rear of Ellen Court to the Church and School needed to be considered, however, the cost for lamp standards was prohibitive at £35K and the Parish Council had no funds to provide this,. I had a discussion with the architect from Canterbury City Council, who came up with the suggestion for robust bulk heads, if we could get permission from the School for installation along the fence, which the headmistress agreed to allow, for which we thank her, she could see the advantages in the dark winter evenings. This scheme, costing only 10% of that quoted for lamp standards. A 50% grant of this was obtained to install this system, costing us around 5% of the original quote. This has proved to be very popular; it works in conjunction with the youth shelter lighting from the same meter, which is the responsibility of the Parish Council.

The current PCSO and Community Warden PCSO Elaine Cannadine and Community Warden Jon Lodge were allocated to us last May. Unfortunately Elaine has had to spend a lot of time away from Littlebourne, and is away for 3 months again at the present time although other officers attend on request by dialling 101. We are in touch with the new Police Commissioner Ann Barnes with regard to the PCSO situation, as this is not the first time that we have had problems with our PCSO being taken away.

Jon Lodge our community warden has proved to be an asset to Littlebourne and we would like to publically thank him for all his efforts in the village. He is moving on as from 28th March, and his replacement will be Gary Moore on the same number, on a permanent basis (to be reviewed in three months' time).

In May 2012 **Rydon Homes put on a public exhibition of their proposals for development** on The Hill and The List. The Parish Council carried out its own survey at this exhibition and feedback from 200 residents visiting the exhibition was that 75% of those who completed the feedback form did not want any development. The Parish Council have made it quite clear to both CCC and KCC that as per this feedback, this is the stance that we are taking for the future and are storing evidence and reasons why we will be resisting development on this site. However, we do not know yet, if this land will even be in the future planning for Canterbury, as they are very behind in producing the District Plan for consultation.

To cement the feelings of Littlebourne, we invited a **Guest speaker, Adrian Verral, Canterbury City Council's Planning Policy Manager** in September 2012. Adrian gave us a presentation on the Canterbury and District Plan in general, nothing specific to Littlebourne, as nothing was finalised as officers were still working on it. All residents present gave him Littlebourne views on any proposals for development. Then in October **our Guest Speaker was leader of CCC John Gilbey**, who said he had been involved in the local plan over the past two years, he gave facts and figures with regard to the south east plan, but was unable to give us any other information with regard to future planning, which should have been available for consultation by end of 2012, but is still not available today. I have requested an update on when this is likely to appear, but no answer has been received, although, we continue to press for detail as soon as it is available for consultation.

June 2012 saw our **Jubilee celebrations** and signing of the Littlebourne documents with our **Twin Town of Wimille in France**, despite the bad weather the day went very well and everyone had a good time, which was only made possible by all the help we received, in particular from the Afternoon Club Ladies who did a splendid job with the catering and dressed the hall superbly for the meal provided to our visitors and the WI who done the morning coffee and afternoon teas.

In July we arranged a coach for a return visit to Wimille to sign the twinning papers there; the day was very much enjoyed by everyone. I myself, had an experience that I will never forget, when I fired a cannon in celebration of our visit! And the unveiling of the Littlebourne twinning sign in Wimille.

A coach was again organised to visit Wimille for their Christmas Fair and visit to Boulogne, this proved another successful enjoyable day for all of us, all but the unfortunate Saint Nicolas, who, got stuck on the tower in Wimille due to the electronics of the zip wire malfunctioning. He only descended in short spurts, unfortunately losing pieces of his clothing on each move, getting caught up in the wire and trees etc on the way down. On reaching the ground sometime later, despite being cold and scratched all over, he still distributed sweets among the bystanders!

Whilst speaking about Wimille, I would like to tell you that we have a coach with a majorette group and guests attending our St Georges Day celebrations on April 20th together, with the Mayor and some members of Wimille Council. The majorettes will be doing two performances for us and the other visitors will be joining in with what we have on offer for the day. We would like all dog owners to take part in 'The Fun Dog Show' and the Fancy Dress Parade is open to all who would like to be part of it. We have a varied programme which, will be on the Website, posted around the village, distributed in the children's school bags and you will receive a programme in the next issue of C & V, so we very much hope for a good attendance from everyone here in Littlebourne.

A **pre-school** exchange took place between Wimille Nursery School and Ladybirds pre-school. Also between Wimille and **Littlebourne Primary Schools**, each visiting each other's School - all of these visits were very successful. We have also commented on the proposed closure of Howe Barracks in 2 years' time and what impact it may have on Littlebourne School who receive a good number of pupils from the barracks.

The Cricket Club have visited the PC and given a presentation of items they wish to provide for use on the Recreation Ground for both the junior and senior part of the cricket club, which can also be used by residents when not in club use. The Parish Council agreed that these items could be used on The Recreation Ground for all.

The annual hanging basket competition last July was judged by the previous year's winner. Every road is visited and many photos taken. A social evening is arranged for September to present prizes, we do this to encourage residents to display their baskets and tubs for the benefit of Littlebourne as well as themselves. The dates for judging this year has been fixed as the weekend of 13-14th July. We do hope that everyone

will get into the spirit of things and make Littlebourne even more attractive. I would add, that we are thinking of doing something similar for people's Christmas light displays.

Christmas Lights in the tree outside the post office were again provided by Parish Council for the month of December.

You may have noticed that we have provided a **disabled parking space** and a bell for assistance if a parishioner needs help when our office is manned.

We had received requests for 2 **seats** in the village, which we were unable to fully fund, but set about trying to fulfil requests. We made an application for Funding from 4VPO community shop management committee and were awarded a grant to fund half the cost of a seat on The List. The parish council were able to make up the shortfall. We also received a full cost donation from the Family for a seat in memoriam placed on Court Hill, in memory of L.A. BAILEY 1920-2011 and E.BAILEY 1929-2011 who was the daughter of A. Fox a past Parish Council Chairman. Both seats are now in position.

Other grants have been received this year, among them, a grant for **Nature Reserve**. I would like to minute congratulations to them all, for their efforts on both The River Reserve and particularly Cherry Orchard reserve which has come on leaps and bounds over the last year including having had two open days as well. Also **Grants for Heritage Centre**, have been received, which is in the process of setting up in the room that was previously known as The Green Room. This will hold historic documents from Littlebourne that will be open on occasions and for viewing by appointment. Also other grants were received for other works that need doing. I will not be telling you of each individual grant that we have received, as we are always seeking and applying for any grants out there for Littlebourne needs, sometimes successful and sometimes not, as they are becoming more and more scarce. This involves a great deal of work and is very time consuming but we continue to persevere.

Last year, Littlebourne entered Action with Communities in **Rural Kent's "Rural Village of the Year"**, for the first time and at the presentation evening in September we learnt that Littlebourne had won recognition in all four categories! We were Highly Commended in Sustainability, and Commended in the Community, Business and Communication categories. Besides meeting all the criteria as laid down, earlier in the summer we had conducted a panel of judges around the village and had been interviewed by them. On receiving the results, we felt that we had done very well, as the other villages taking part were considerably larger than us, and therefore had more resources to call upon. The winner was West Malling which is more like a town with its shops and businesses, so we didn't feel too badly about it.

As you may know, the income we receive as the Parish Council to spend on Littlebourne needs comes from two sources. Some comes from you, the Parishioners and some comes from Canterbury City Council to carry out the jobs around the Village that are their responsibility. The bit paid by the Parishioners is called the Precept and this is collected by the City Council with the annual council tax. The bit paid to us by the City Council to do their work is called concurrent funding.

The Precept this year has been a big headache as the Concurrent Funding to Littlebourne has been cut by about a third (although the work is still there to be done)! We had managed to cut back on our previous year's precept by £552, however the tax base on property has been re calculated by the Government and as a result the precept per property had to be increased, details have already been published of what we have had to do, details have now been received from CCC. The advice that we have been given by central Government, in common with all other Parish Councils is that we should increase our Precept this year. Of the 26 parishes in the Canterbury district, 21 have increased their precept requirement, 3 have kept it the same as last year's and only 2 have lowered theirs. Our final figures, based on a 'Band D' property, mean an increase for 2013-14 of 22.5 pence per week.

We deal with many, **planning applications** each year, some of us have been on training courses for this, but we are now in a new era of planning and need to keep very alert as to what is happening. We are always keen to hear residents' comments and concerns. We will always look at a planning applications on Planning Grounds only, as, has been directed in training, however, it is always Canterbury City Council that will make the final decision on all applications, so we ask residents to not only direct their concerns to us, but also to CCC. We are constantly reviewing the way we handle things and have again reviewed the way we handle applications and decided that we should inform a near neighbour of an application if we feel it could be contentious, so cards are delivered, just in case they haven't be informed by CCC.

A number of **complaints** were dealt with in regard to the coppicing of Pine Woods and a meeting was held with Howlett's to discuss concerns. A lot of work has gone into dealing with various **footpaths** this year. As has work towards safety in the village with regard to **traffic and highways**. As you will hear shortly **Speedwatch** has been stepped up as well, but there is a shortage of volunteers, so if anyone wishes to volunteer, they would be most welcome, training will be provided.

Flooding and river levels have been carefully monitored due to such a wet year; we are constantly in touch with the authorities making sure everything is in place to avoid any further flooding or sewerage escape.

At the outset of the Emergency Plans, Littlebourne was one, of only two, Parish Councils that had an **Emergency Plan** in place for disasters should they happen, so another feather in our cap! We need to keep updating and adding volunteers to this list as well.

An updated report on **Neighbourhood Watch** shows we have moved forward in leaps and bounds and have a much wider network, anyone who would like to receive direct information, trading standards warnings etc. just let us know and we will happily add you to the distribution list.

A further update was received in December from a Cardy's representative on the progress of the new **Doctors Surgery on Court Hill** which was published in full. There is little movement on building the surgery at present, although Cardy pension fund have the capital to build it, the NHS/PCT are unable to commit to the rental at the present time, Cardy's are investigating other options in the meanwhile. I asked for a further update for this meeting which I will now read to you. (see below in these minutes)

All in all, I am very proud of what the Parish Council have achieved this year for the residents.

Latest position re new build Doctor's Surgery for Court Hill

An update from Cardys about the current status with the development of the new surgery was received on 1 March 2013, as follows -

A considerable amount of work has now been carried out on the site by way of 'enabling' work to comply with the Planning Approval. This work includes alterations to Court Hill and the formation of the entrance/exit to the site, the additional section of pedestrian footpath, drainage connections and of course the traffic calming measures. The works associated with Court Hill (road, footpath and traffic calming etc) have been approved and 'signed off' by Kent Highways Services who will now also take over responsibility for the maintenance of those areas etc. The footprint of the building has been set out and ground clearance/levelling completed, prior to the next stage - casting of the building foundations etc. In addition, the majority of the Planning Conditions have also been complied with and discharged, including all of the Ecology work, soil decontamination, site Archaeology, boundary fencing and initial landscaping (replacement hedge) specifically to the Court Hill frontage.

All is now set for the actual development of the new surgery building to commence – however, despite best endeavours, including the commitment to progress the works as detailed above, Cardys have still not managed to secure funding for the final scheme. The usual funding provided by the NHS/PCT is not

available for Littlebourne at the present time and so it is necessary to seek alternative private funding which Cardys continue to explore. This is a frustrating situation for all concerned – not least of all for the residents of Littlebourne who supported the scheme with such enthusiasm at the Planning stage – but Cardys can now demonstrate a real commitment from the work recently completed and this in turn will hopefully convince funders to support them.

Cardys previously alluded to the possibility that the new building may have to be slightly re-designed to accommodate alternative additional medically related services which in turn would generate extra rent to support the Doctors and make the scheme viable. If it is necessary for a re-design, Cardys will consult with the PC and ensure Cllrs are kept fully informed.

After the Chairman concluded her report a resident asked about overgrown hedges on School Path. Cllr Spratt explained that she and the Clerks are working on this currently and in dialogue with absent landowners.

Littlebourne Community Fund

Cllr Spratt advised that now that all legal fees for the extension of the shop have been paid, there is a small amount of shop rent that comes to the parish council. The council has set up a Community Fund and would invite applications for funding to facilitate the distribution of the rent received from the Parish Council funded extension to the 4 Villages Store, by providing finance for events and projects in Littlebourne through the village organisations and / or others and where funding from any other source is not available from community groups. These will be considered by a sub committee of parish councilors.

5. GUEST SPEAKERS: Community First Responders, to talk about their role in the emergency services response

Cllr Spratt gave a welcome to the guest speakers, Paul Caldwell and Ryan Truelove, Community First Responders of the South East Coast Ambulance Service. Paul explained he was a local volunteer, with a background in first aid training. He explained he was attending the meeting to raise awareness.

He explained Community First Responders are volunteers, not paid, fully trained and with vital equipment, whose role is to be first on scene before an ambulance crew. Volunteers bring different skills, especially that they are already in their communities. Usually they do get to a scene before a crew because they are local. Locally, Herne Bay, Canterbury, Whitstable, Thanet and the rural areas are all covered. Paul explained he covered Canterbury and Ryan covered Canterbury. They try to work as a team. Paul is also a team leader of four volunteers.

Their aim is to stop the deterioration of a patient until the ambulance crew arrives. Breathing difficulties and chest pain are the most common calls, but also unconscious and collapsed patients also. They are not sent to impractical calls such as fires or road traffic crashes or other high risk incidents, due to scene safety, nor to previously flagged patients with a violent record. Paul explained that every 999 call does get a trained paid employee sent. Not every call will get an ambulance. It is nice for a resident to get reassurance from the community responder volunteers.

When someone calls 999 and selects ambulance, the call comes in and address details are determined by BT automatically or if a mobile is being used it tracks to the nearest mast; the call centre then immediately alerts the nearest community first responder. The 999 call pattern varies; with lots of calls on Friday and Saturday nights and Sunday evenings and Monday mornings. The

calls are also affected by local demographics and the weather. First responders try to give cover 24 hours 7 days a week.

Defibrillators run a self-check every day. The defibrillators cost £850, the whole kit costs £1,000 to £1,600. Consumables are replaced by the ambulance service or cardiac science.

Paul explained they are looking for two volunteers for the Littlebourne area. Any volunteer must be over 18 years old and CRB checked. After a fitness test and medical there would be a preliminary self-learning pack, then training days, and all volunteers are mentored. Ideally a volunteer would be available for 20 hours per month. There is no age restriction but a volunteer does need to be fit physically fit enough to do the role. Occupational health advisors offer advice on any volunteers' medical or health problems such as diabetes. There are other roles a volunteer can cover also.

A resident asked if a defibrillator can be used on people with a pace maker. Paul explained that they obviously have to be careful but that for heart attack patients a defibrillator increases their survival chances. Pacemakers are usually placed in the top left of the body and the pads to shock a heart are placed top right and bottom left – if far enough away from the pacemaker it should be okay. Paul also explained that the public defibrillators are fully automatic, with voice prompts, and will not deliver a shock if the patient does not need it.

Paul also explained they need to take care not just for pacemakers, but for pendants, body hair, perspiration, piercings, and puddles/water.

Another resident asked how the volunteers are covered by insurance. The first responders use their own car and get paid mileage. Most insurance companies don't charge an extra premium for first responders to use their own vehicle. The volunteers are also covered by SECAMB insurance. They are also covered for liability insurance and any mistakes and litigation. There is a scope of practice.

Cllr Welch commented that he was in St John's for a number of years and he has seen a defibrillator in action – he urged residents to support their vital work.

Cllr Mick Giles advised he was taken ill about four years ago and was attended to by a volunteer who put him at ease until the ambulance arrived – which was a great relief.

Cllr Spratt thanked the guests on behalf of Littlebourne Parish Council, for their interesting and informative talk, and presented them a cheque for £50. A bucket for a collection was also circulated.

6. Reports from local organisations:

Village Traffic & Safety sub-committee – Cllr Mike Gallagher

Cllr Gallagher read his report to the meeting as follows:

Do we still need a Traffic committee?

Last year when I gave this report I said that we were concerned about three things:

- a) people safety
- b) property safety
- c) quality of life in Littlebourne

Those are still our overriding concerns and to them, this year, has been added the threat that projected development in the Village might place some of those areas at greater risk. We also

continually hear of cuts, or threats of cuts, to all public service budgets. We therefore have to fight all the harder to get our views and wishes across and to ensure that our Village problems are at least being considered. So our work is not yet done – in some cases it is barely started.

What are Our Priorities? There are three main areas:

1) enforcement of existing speed limits for all traffic, mainly through our own Speedwatch activities. We have also had some assistance from our PCSOs, but unfortunately we have not managed to hold on to any particular PCSO for any length of time so this help, although very welcome, has been sporadic.

2) ensuring the safety of people and property through such things as the re-signing of Nargate Street with the new international 'Unsuitable for HGVs' signs and monitoring and reporting to KCC breaches of this rule. We are also trying to protect pavement users by installing bollards.

3) continuing to build up a picture of what is happening on the ground in the Village so that we can argue with data and from a position of strength with the Highway Authorities. We have also used that data to inform both the City Council and Kent Highways about the extent of the threat to traffic movement in our Village posed by the proposed Rydon Development.

How are we doing?

All residents will have had a copy of the latest LPC News and in that there was a separate sheet headed 'Traffic Report'. We believe that it is important to keep our Parishioners informed and you will see, for example, how the Speedwatch system works and the success that we have had this year.

The new signage in Nargate Street has not been totally successful in stopping HGVs from entering the upper end, but at least no-one can claim that they haven't seen the signs or understood them. Our next step is to formally apply to Kent Highways for a ban on HGVs greater than 7.5 tonnes and this we will shortly do. Sometimes issues such as this need to be taken a step at a time.

Jubilee Road is another area showing signs of considerable congestion at times. The pavements and kerbs at either end have been repaired and replaced where they have been damaged with HGVs running over them. Kent Highways thought that the higher kerbs might be sufficient to stop such overrunning, but that has not been the case. We have had a site meeting with their engineer and we are looking at some footpath modifications which will allow bollards to be placed in order to provide a physical barrier to vehicles mounting the kerbs. At least HGV drivers will be more aware of the need to take care when turning into and out of that road.

The parish council is also looking at the need to provide double yellow lines so that passing places can be created to ease the flow of traffic, particularly alongside the Recreation Ground. At times cars are having to reverse back out into the A257, whilst traffic coming from the Church Road end cannot see any car turning into Jubilee Road from the A257.

We are members of the A257 Group which comprises other Parish Councils along the route from Canterbury to Sandwich, their relevant District Councillors as well as KCC Members and our two local MPs. Here we look at the more strategic problems associated with the whole road. The problems, however, are almost identical with all of us – speeding traffic, HGVs trying to get into places too small for them, areas that should have speed restrictions in place and also the strategic effects of government policy.

We have recently dealt with the consultation on raising the speed limits for HGVs from 40mph to 50mph on rural roads. Having struggled to get a speed limit for all traffic on the A257 down to 50mph, you will appreciate that we could not agree to increase that for HGVs, especially when the Consultation Paper admitted that a proportion of these vehicles travel at 50mph anyway, thus breaking the current limit.

We are also trying to find out progress on the 'SatNav' summit held nearly a year ago which was trying to ensure that lorries used the correct commercial vehicle satnav equipment and that this was always up to date. There was a case recently in Somerset where a lorry wedged itself in a village road resulting in the need to close the road for at least 24 hours and to demolish a house wall to get it out. One of our MPs has said that she accepts our view that we have reached the stage where some vehicles are just too big to be used in rural areas and will report this to her government colleagues.

At the next A257 meeting we will be putting forward suggestions for further speed restriction areas. We will be pressing for 40mph areas to be created between the general 50mph on the A257 and the Village 30mph area.

There is a new Kent Highways initiative to set up a Lorrywatch programme. There is a trial currently in place in the Village of Leeds, just outside Maidstone, and we are aiming to be the second. This is again aimed at getting data so that that we can present problems and suggest solutions based on facts.

We have had a site meeting with a Kent Highways engineer to discuss the proposed Rydon Development and the impact this will have on traffic flows on and off the A257. This proposal is part of the general work being done by the City Council on its District Development Plan. The levels of population increase will add significantly to all major roads leading in to Canterbury, none of which are being scheduled for any upgrading. We still have to wait for City Council decisions before we can decide on the next steps.

What can You do?

It is important that we in Littlebourne are seen to know and be able to quantify the problems in our Village. To achieve that we have to have more help to carry out the Speedwatch (and shortly Lorrywatch) activities – so please consider helping. The work is not onerous, perhaps a couple of sessions of a couple of hours a month. Please contact Cllr Cate Reid, our Sub Committee Secretary 70 The Hill, 01227 721831 or by email to cateatnickthevoice@btinternet.com

Please let us know of any incidents, or accidents around or in the vicinity of the Village. Again there is a form in the LPC News. Surprisingly most accidents are not recorded in traffic statistics by the Police or other emergency services. Because Kent Highways only get their figures from these agencies it is not surprising that they do not have an accurate view of what is happening on the ground. If you can tell us we can ensure that Kent Highways know. Very often the A257 is closed for a couple of hours and Kent Highways know nothing about it.

Please help us to help you get better services. Let any Cllr know of any incident you see.

There was a round of applause as Cllr Gallagher's report concluded.

A resident commented that Bekesbourne Lane is in a bad state. Cllr Gallagher said that Kent Highways have advised they have no budget, although Nargate Street is even worse and is now being done in 2013.

Sloydon and Durrant Charities Report – Cllr Mick Giles

A report was given by Cllr Mick Giles. He explained the background to the fund: The land was left by Harry Sloydon in 1568, and sold to Mounts in 1965 for £450, with £225 each being given to Wickhambreaux and Littlebourne.

Ground rents of the Malthouse Cottages which stood by the Anchor Pub were left by John Durrant in 1560 and sold to the Bridge Blean Rural District Council in 1968 for £20.

“This total therefore of £245 was invested and is now worth £2521-21 in 255 shares held in the Charities Investment fund (COIF). Dividends are approximately between £90 and £140 year. I have no records regarding payments prior to 1970 since when until 1990 £478 was paid out, mainly in very small amounts especially at Christmas.

I took over in 1990 and to date have paid out £1420. Although these sums are not large they have been a great relief to those who have received them. We have averaged about one payment every two years in fact I am coming to the end of the cheque book first used in Dec 1970 and which bears the 5/- Stamp Duty on the cover.

The Sloydon & Durrant Charity exists to help residents in cases of need or hardship, Im pleased to report that last year we were able to help a resident with a payment of £100.”

Cllr Giles with fellow trustee Cllr Ken Shaw are reliant and grateful to anyone bringing such cases to their attention, and where any help given is strictly confidential

The financial balance as at the 30th Nov 2012 was £1067-90, the current total will be a little higher – the February bank statement was awaited. Cllr Giles advised the account book was available tonight to anyone wishing to see it, or at any other reasonable time by written application to the Parish Council Clerk.

Cllr Spratt thanked Cllr Giles for all his hard work.

War Memorial Hall Trust – Chairman, Cate Reid

Cllr Reid read her report to the meeting as follows:

We continue to try to increase bookings, to safeguard our Village Hall, and to keep it running as cost-efficiently as possible. Villagers continue to pay at a very reasonable rate, so please remember to ask me for a quote if you are planning any family get-togethers – using the Village Hall can be just the ideal place.

There are many regular Classes at the Hall, which provides a venue for Keep-Fit, Zumba, Pilates, W.I, The Afternoon Club, various University of the 3rd Age classes, such as Quilting and Music, Bridge sessions, Little Bees Children, Church events such as Harvest Supper and Church Bazaar; and various Fund-Raising events like Quiz Evenings. Do contact me on 01227 721831 if you want any information on any of these.

We are often complimented on all the rooms at the Hall being well-equipped and comfortable, but we continue to try to improve the facilities, while keeping a careful eye on expenses. This includes energy-saving as much as possible, to which end the Lounge double-glazed windows were recently re-sealed, to conserve heat and to improve the look of them. We are gradually changing the light bulbs to very low energy bulbs, but which throw out a better light. We should also see an improvement in our electricity bills.

We have a very good Chairman of the Turner’s Orchard Sub-Committee, in Mick Lonergan, resident, who has organised events in the Orchard for children and adults. Anyone who would like to

volunteer a little time to being involved with the Orchard would be very welcome, so please ask Mick or call me on that one.

With funding becoming more difficult, we nevertheless feel confident that the Village Hall will continue to prosper and be there for future generations. Lastly, I would like to thank the Hall Committee for all their support and help – let's make this year as good a year as possible for everyone.

Neighbourhood Watch – Cllr Geof Welch

Cllr Welch explained they are trying to keep up adding names to the scheme – David Smith is the village co-ordinator. Keep in touch via the internet – Cllr Welch indicated forms for residents to give their email details – he does filter all the reports received to ensure only relevant ones are forwarded. Anyone without email should contact David Smith to receive relevant information. Cllr Welch explained there are lots of scams, some very professional, and it is useful to know about these.

Emergency Plan – Cllr Geof Welch

Cllr Welch explained that whilst we hope we never need it, there is an Emergency Plan. Potential problems are flooding, power cuts, traffic incidents. The plan would help villagers help themselves and use local knowledge. The committee want volunteers to offer expertise, accommodation or resources in any emergency. Please volunteer.

There is also a very good Flood committee.

Cllr Welch explained that later in 2013 the emergency plan committee are to run a training exercise to set up and run a rest centre at the hall. He would like to call on the Afternoon Club, WI, youth organisations and residents to help. He said he was certain that in a real situation this village would have many volunteers.

The Littlebourne Afternoon Club (over 55's) – Mrs Roz Arman

The report prepared by Mrs Roz Arman was read to be meeting by the Club Secretary Mrs Barbara Hunt, as Mrs Arman was having an operation in hospital, and sent apologies.

“Our membership is full – 75 members, and we have visitors from Ellen Court and Littlebourne House. We have had a good year with outings to Brighton Pavilion, East Sussex Railway, Garden Centres, and Elham Valley Vineyard.

At Christmas we arranged a trip to Newnham Court (Maidstone), Christmas Lunch at The Haywain and a Christmas Party Tea (all home-made) with entertainment.

We are going to the “Brick Lane Music Hall” this month – a wonderful day out.

I want to thank my wonderful committee and Jon and Chris, my sons, for keeping everything going during my sudden illness”. Mrs Roz Arman.

Mrs Barbara Hunt asked that she add something of her own:

“I would also like to say that despite her own adversities in the past, Roz has done us proud in what she has achieved. It is a wonderful Club and we have a very strong and active committee, and I am very pleased to be part of it.”

Littlebourne Nature Reserves – Cllr Pamela Evans

Cllr Pam Evans gave her report on the two nature reserves as follows:

a) RIVERBANK NATURE RESERVE

The main focus this year has been the clearing of the copse to provide rides and shelters for small mammals and butterflies. We should like to thank the Stour Countryside Partnership for their support of this project. We are now looking at planting wetland plants in the damper part of the copse.

Wild flowers are beginning to establish themselves along the bank of the river, especially valerian. Barbara Timlett continues to clear Himalayan Balsam on a regular basis and we thank her for her work.

The Riverfly Angling Group showed us how to undertake water sampling in the Little Stour and we shall continue to contribute towards their water quality monitoring by sending in our results two or three times a year. In September the quality was good.

Also in September we helped with a hedgehog monitoring survey in the village. The result of that survey suggests that hedgehogs are doing better in people's gardens than they are in the wild. Unfortunately our wet summer prevented us undertaking our proposed bat walks.

Cllr Evans recorded special thanks to Martin Twyman, present at the meeting, for generously leasing the parish council the land for this reserve.

b) THE CHERRY ORCHARD NATURE RESERVE

This year the pond and scrape were built and the pond is being left empty of plants so that we can monitor its colonization. We should like to thank Brett Lewis, ecologist, for his guidance in seeing this project through.

The wild meadow is being further developed and we should like to thank the scouts, cubs and explorers who helped with the planting of English bluebells and wild Kent daffodils. Also for their good work in helping with the construction and cleaning of bird boxes. Anne Perkins and Isabelle Stephens have spent long periods preparing the flower meadows and planting seedlings and hedging. We also thank the volunteers who helped over two days to prepare the ground for planting. We received a donation from the Kent Reptile and Amphibian Group for which we were very grateful. It was used to buy pond dipping equipment.

Art in Nature.

Wendy Blanchet has had a very successful year in gaining funds for supporting her art classes for children, which are held in the gazebo. She obtained funding from the 4village store and also from Waitrose, where the Nature Reserve gained the most tokens in October. Wendy organised a visit to the Lee Priory site with the children last summer to extend their observational art work. Wendy is to be congratulated on her work with a group of fortunate children. We are working to lay on an Art day for adults and children and will advertise this in due course.

ACTION PLAN - Our action plan for the year September 2012 – September 2013 has been much simplified after a busy few years. We are mainly consolidating our work and continuing with surveys and monitoring and encouraging flora, fauna and wildlife.

In the Cherry Orchard we shall also develop a marsh area adjacent to the pond.

The art and education groups for children will continue.

We shall open the Cherry Orchard site to the public during the course of the year and we shall advertise dates once we have wild flowers blossoming and art displays prepared.

It is also hoped to hold some more volunteer working groups on the site.

AGM - The date of our AGM is Monday 23rd September 2013, when Emma Ventham from the Environment Agency will be giving a talk on water voles. We hope that you will come and join us for what promises to be an interesting talk.

Littlebourne Horticultural Society – Report on Allotments – Roger Weaver

Roger Weaver explained there are 59 allotments now. These are owned by the parish council but managed by the Littlebourne Horticultural Society (LHS) volunteers, who share the workload. They work with the parish council to maintain the facility.

There are also environmental plots on the site, and some plots have been sub divided to be more manageable. LHS has been running for 11 years and the transformation on the allotments has been amazing. The site is secure, with toilet facilities and families encouraged. Volunteers support is available but some aspects of work need payment.

So what's been happening? – Diverse fruit and vegetables, a decent crop of polytunnels over the last year, a potting show supported with prizes awarded for the best plots – first prize winners were Dave Waters, and Mr Farbrace (smaller plot). The produce stall deserves a mention – it is appreciated both by residents and LHS as this raises funds.

The keeping of bees has been successful and the colonies confirmed as free of disease. There have been issues with bonfires during day time hours, missing crops, water usage and foxes. Foxes took about 50 chickens, and measures to dissuade them were taken. The water is on a meter basis, and costs about £250 per year.

Roger Weaver explained LHS had spoken to Serco and 25 broken wheelie bins were now in use as water butts – saving Serco landfill tax. A second delivery is awaited. They are also looking to re-introduce a BBQ in 2013. And also appoint a consultant regarding some clearance to produce more allotment plots. The LHS is now adjusting to the new direct funding model.

Roger explained John Pollard had supported the site with his own equipment for many years. LHS has saved for over 10 years for their own equipment and will purchase some shortly. Finally Roger explained their regular supplier of manure is unable to provide this year so LHS are looking elsewhere.

Littlebourne Primary School

Cllr Spratt read the head teacher's report to the meeting as follows:

The school has ninety two pupils on roll, organised into four wide ability mixed aged classes. The children are largely from the surrounding area of Littlebourne, with fifteen from the barracks and some travelling from Canterbury. There are currently five teachers, six teaching assistants and two office staff in the school team, all working very hard.

Following the introduction of yet another new Ofsted framework in September 2012, the school is once again on high alert for a further inspection within the next year. Schools now get only a few hours notice of an inspection, so everything needs to be in a constant state of readiness. The focus for an inspection is now considerably narrowed, relying on data produced from pupil progress in literacy and numeracy. The pressure on continually improving teaching and learning has certainly increased.

Despite this, the school remains actively involved with community activities, participating in the Jubilee event last year providing an exhibition of art and dancing. The junior aged children also took part in an exchange project with the primary school in Wimille last summer. Singing was provided for the re-opening service of Ellen Court in the autumn and classes have made good use of the orchard for several nature and art walks.

Building on the encouraging report from the Church inspection last year, the school is continuing to develop robust links with St Vincent's – now using the Church for regular everyday services in addition to the special occasions in the calendar. Much work has been done to extend the nature of the school's Core Values of Endurance, Hope and Friendship and this will continue in the coming year.

Jacqueline Reed - Headteacher

St Vincent's Church – report from the Reverend Chris Wilkinson (read by Church warden Cllr Mike Gallagher)

Dear Annual Meeting

First of all I'm sorry not to be with you this evening – but my thanks to Mike Gallagher, one of the Churchwardens at St Vincents, for reading this to you.

Now beginning my third year here with you, I am delighted to be able to mention something of what we have been doing - which many of you will have either noticed through the pages of Church and Village or by visiting the church itself. At that point I do want to express thanks to those who compile, print and distribute the monthly editions of Church and Village – and to those who handle the advertising and also everyone who contributes.

I'd also like to thank the band of folk who regularly help to keep the churches in this Benefice looking spick and span and beautifully decorated with flowers – whether or not they attend church services. These are village churches and they are your churches. Which is why it is good to have them open during daylight hours. It's why it's good that the schools can use them...It's why it's good that Scouts, Guides, Choirs, visiting bell-ringers can all come in and use the building. The church is open for everyone to use – whether for something in particular or simply just to pop in for a few moments quiet every now and then.

It's important that we keep St Vincents open, accessible and welcoming for everyone. And the work which we have undertaken in the churchyard, which the Parish Council supported, is part of that aspiration. A considerable amount has been done – and will continue to be done this coming year – as we continue to develop the churchyard as a welcoming place for all who wish to visit.

As well as our regular services, which across the four churches offer a range of styles of worship - we also host various concerts and other activities. There are groups for children and young people – as well as thriving bands of bell-ringers. Our soon-to-be-launched Church website will give full details.

Our links with the Bridge Benefice continue to grow. The Vicar of Bridge the Rev'd Simon Rowlands has recently moved to Faversham – and so we are involved with the Bridge Benefice in helping with the search for and appointment of a new Priest-in-Charge. I continue as your Parish Priest – but in due course I will have a different colleague to work alongside and to share my ministry with.

To repeat part of my report from last year – but it doesn't change - as the church in this place we are privileged to be available and to be alongside people at the significant moments of life – whether it's a Baptism, Wedding or a Funeral. We're there to help celebrate and mark the important moments in life as well as to offer support when needed at such times. I hope we continue to be very much part of the community life of the village.

Chris Wilkinson March 2013

The Barn, Heritage and Footpaths – Cllr Betty Jeffries

Cllr Jeffries explained the Barn committee was very glad to see the departure of the thatchers. They caused many headaches during their stay. Last year we had Barn Dances, Parties , Sirius Art Week and weddings besides our usual openings, the Produce Show, Heritage Weekend and Christmas Fair making a good total for the Barn This is due to the efforts of Daphne Kelk and her group of

helpers - Nancy, Brenda, Jean and Brian who provide the refreshments, The Art Group and other supporters and members of the Committee.

The Barn Welcome Centre.

The Committee had been arguing with Canterbury City Council about the design for some time. CCC wanted some kind of glass and steel structure in the Barn or outside. We objected to all of these and went back to our original which fitted all the needs for the various uses of the Barn and Tea Rooms. After 20 years we think we know what is needed. We had the support of the Conservation Society, and the Parish Council. CC objected so the application was deferred. It came up in modified form on 5th March 2013 after discussions with Planning Officer Bob Britnell and was granted unanimously. Thanks to Megan Taylor the architect for all her efforts.

Produce Show

This was a bad season for produce but in spite of difficulties raised a substantial sum for Cancer Research. We hope to have Phil Spencer to open the Show and at the auction this year.

Heritage Art weekend at The Barn.

There were about 300 visitors. Wendy and Irene and members of the Art Group were thanked for their hard work. A sale of various items raised £98 for the Cherry Orchard Nature Reserve and the Barn. Thanks to Brian Russ, Anne Perkins, Pamela Evans and Roz for their help. The accounts will be presented at the AGM on 3 April 2013 in The Barn.

Barn Bookings.

So far there are five weddings booked for next year, all local people, with deposits paid.

OPEN DAYS for 2013: 26th August Produce Show, 7th and 8th September Heritage Weekend and Art Show, and 1st December Christmas Market.

Heritage Local History Group Update – Cllr Betty Jeffries

Cllr Jeffries read her report to the meeting as follows:

Thanks to Mike Gallagher we managed to acquire two lockable metal cupboards and one filing cabinet. The latter just fitted into the vacant space. The vertical map file has arrived and has been fixed to the wall, the plan strips have also arrived. We will need some keys for the fitted cupboard owners to get into the Green Room. None of the old keys fit. The cupboards are in place and we will need to look for a suitable table. If we can get a grant, a photograph copier would be an advantage as people do seem to be interested in the old photos, postcards etc and we have an offer of help from one of the KCC archivists who lives in the village. We also have contacts in Ash who are willing to share their experience of setting up a similar scheme in Ash with us. As soon as we are further on I will contact them again to arrange a meeting

We are grateful to several people for grants to enable us to do this ---to KCC Cllr Michael Northey for a contribution from his KCC members fund of £330, to the Shop Committee for a £500 award and Littlebourne Parish Council and CCC for their grants of £190 and £980 respectively. Thanks too to Cate and the Hall Committee for arranging the understage storage and decorating the Green Room. We will start to move things over soon.

The 2 photograph exhibitions organised by Nancy White generated a lot of interest
We are getting there.

Footpaths – Cllr Betty Jeffries

Cllr Jeffries explained that there have been three sets of problems about Public Rights Of Ways (PROW). Telephone calls to a KCC Officer were not returned and no action resulted. Kent County

Councillor Michael Northey came to the rescue and discovered that the PROW department was being re-organised. The three problems were:

1) Pine Wood

Complaints were received from several parishioners who had also tried to contact KCC PROW officers about the unsatisfactory condition of the ground and footpaths resulting from the use of heavy machinery for coppicing and the wet weather. Also the mud was being spread onto the road by vehicles turning left towards the village and across the section where many vehicles leave the road and end up in peoples gardens. Attempts by us to make contact with KCC PROW were unsuccessful.

Cllrs Evans and Jeffries met with a representative of Howletts who assured us that coppicing was about to stop in that section. However it then started in another section (both sections had permission for coppicing from the Forestry Commission but no time of year stated.) People continued to try to use the PROW and Howletts could not understand why they did not realise the danger of heavy machinery but there were no notices to explain. Parishioners contacted Cllr Northey who managed to get some notices about mud on the road and explained the situation to them. Please let us know how things are progressing. Howletts have agreed to restore the footpaths. Howletts have also said that after this round of coppicing, there will be no more for 15 years.

2) School Path

Complaints about vegetation growing out across School Path were received but again there was no response from the PROW officer. This is an important link between Bekesbourne Lane and the village cutting down the length where pedestrians have to walk along the road without a footpath. The parish council had contacted the owners of the land a few years ago and I managed to find their address in Manchester again so hopefully now something will be done for this next season. The surface is also breaking up in some places making it unsafe. Cllr Northey also intervened for us on this one.

3) Little Stour Farm

Horses on land rented out in the field were causing problems by congregating round the gates and styles. This was resolved by the new owners of Little Stour Farm Everyone is grateful to them for dealing with this.

Claim of footpaths from LB to Bekesbourne and CB150

In 2005 this known footpath was blocked and in response to representations from parishioners the PC started the procedure to have it put on the Definitive Map. Forms were completed by people who had walked these footpaths over many years These were sent to KCC in 2007, Last autumn 5 yrs later we were notified that KCC had refused our claim. There are many aspects of this report which give me cause for concern not least the dismissal of the evidence provided by people who worked on the land in question much of their lives and had an intimate knowledge of both land and footpaths .The PC agreed that we should appeal. Although this entailed a great deal of work noting and arguing each point I felt that it should be done to justify those people The inspector refused our appeal. So many of the witnesses have died since 2005 but there are still many of us who walked them as PROW and part of one of the ancient green roads across Kent.

Cllr Evans commented that the residents of Littlebourne are very blessed with footpaths in the village, but she urged everyone to please stay on the official paths so as not to cause damage elsewhere.

Littlebourne Youth Club – Cllr Vivienne Spratt

The Youth Group at the present time has fewer members than last year, but this will obviously happen as young people leave and move on due to them coming of age etc. We are changing our age range from 9 to 18 rather than starting at 8 years old as we felt this may be rather young for a 2 hour visit on a School Night, but of course it is up to the parents to decide what is best for their children. We are still keeping our charges at 50p per session and registering at £1.50 which they have to do on their first visit with a parent to complete a parental consent form. Of course these fees do not cover the costs of the evening and we seek other ways to obtain funding, especially for the extra interest events that we try to put on.

This year the young people have received coaching in Quick Cricket, training from a Theatrical makeup artist, who has worked on TV programmes such as casualty etc, even the boys loved this with the gruesome wounds giving ideas for Halloween. We have had authentic African Drumming which most enjoyed and various other items and next month we have a cook coming to teach how to make cup cakes.

We are always encouraging new membership and looking for volunteers who we arrange and pay for a CRB check for. We are also always looking for any resident who has got some expertise in any field that they could share with the young people even if it is just a one off night that they could attend.

The young people of Littlebourne are very fortunate in all that is laid on for them as we have so many organisations within the village who we give sincere thanks too.

7. County and City Cllr reports:

i) Cllr Michael Northey - Kent County Council

The usual thing -- how time flies, and it is the Annual Meeting again. I have now been your County councillor for eight years and in that time, you have made me a kind of honorary villager, even though I live in south Canterbury. I felt I had really arrived when the invitation came for me to be judge of the Fun Dog Competition at the St George's celebrations on 20th April soon!

First a word about Kent County Council -- I go there often of course and there are loads of meetings. As usual the Budget predominates, because KCC wants to do so much and we need the means to do it. We have had seven years of reduced income, and in the last three years we have had to remove £340 million from the budget, and this year by £97million. It would be lovely to do all we want on roads, education, services for children, young people adults and elderly, etc, etc, but we have to prioritise severely now.

In spite of all we have not increased council tax for the last three years, and there is no loss of front-line services, though we do have to do things a different way at times.

Locally I have still been able to help. Last year I found £300 towards the parish council Jubilee and twinning celebrations, and £400 for the Afternoon Club to have an outing. Regarding road improvements, I have put in from my Members' Highways Fund this year, £5,060 to widen the pavements at each end of Jubilee Road and raise the kerbs in an attempt to help pedestrians and stop lorries over-running. I was hopeful we could also install bollards to make a much more substantial barrier. There has been a hiccup over this, and at first I thought these could happen, then it turned out that the pavements were not quite wide enough. But the good news is that Mike Gallagher and his team persisted, and we had an officer out to inspect the site -- and there is a very good chance we might find a way to widen the pavements and install the bollards after all.

KCC did find an extra £6 million for extra resurfacing works of roads throughout Kent, and our share in my whole Division amounted to £117,168, which is more than four years' worth of my normal Member's Highways Fund, and on top of it. After detailed discussion with Highways officers I got them to plan resurfacing along the whole length of Nargate Street from the junction with High Street to the 30mph gateway at a cost of £48,000 and work starts for this on 11th April: and also St Vincent's' Close, whole length, cost £12,096, work starts April 15th (both works are weather dependent) -- so you see Littlebourne gets £60,096 out of the £117,168, the lion's share, considering how much my county Division covers.

This is Micro Asphalt and is independent of any potholes which are being looked at currently.

I won't bore you with details of what I get up to at County Hall -- enough to say that over the last eight years I have served on innumerable committees, have made many contacts and know my way around to get things done as far as they can be. It all comes down in the end to serving local people on the ground.

Many thanks again to Viv and her brilliant parish council who do such a vast amount, and thanks to the huge number of village societies. Well done everyone -- you are the life-blood of the village and it is a pleasure to be here among you.

Michael Northey, KCC Member for Canterbury South East

ii) Cllr Brian Staley – Canterbury City Council

Cllr Staley also endorsed Cllr Northey's closing comments and congratulated the council on all their hard work in Littlebourne. He stated that not all parish councils are as hard working. Common causes such as the A257 group showing partnership working is working well.

The district council provides an alternative budget. There was a proposal to freeze council tax like the county council but a 1.9% rise was agreed. Cllr Staley commented that budget problems at parish level were appreciated.

Cllr Staley stated he was a passionate believer in small businesses and innovative ideas are required. He also said it was important to continue funding for voluntary organisations at grass roots level to support vulnerable residents – he commented that we have a fantastic voluntary sector – an example of which is the new trust set up to stop the closure of the Westgate Hall – the decision is now reversed and a cinema application is being submitted.

The Rural Area Member Panel funding of £10k is to be determined. Cllr Staley has suggested a walking and cycling around rural areas to promote pubs and shops in those areas – a scheme for each village to have laminated maps showing these – and an online scheme could also be developed.

Cllr Staley commented that the future of the Howe Barracks site could give an opportunity in the future. No news yet about it in the Local Plan. Many developments are being discussed. There is renewed interest in a link road from Sturry Road to the A2. He said there is a need for a comprehensive and balanced approach to transport.

8. Presentation to leaving Clerk

Cllr Spratt presented a bouquet of flowers and gift card to the leaving Clerk and thanked her for her service.

9. Presentation to parish councillors

Cllr Spratt also presented each parish cllr with some chocolates as a token of appreciation of all

that they do.

A resident asked that thanks be recorded to Cllr Spratt for all her hard work in the village on behalf of all the residents – and this should also be extended to all Cllrs including city and county councillor.

10. **Presentation of Millennium Award 2013**

Cllr Spratt advised she was very pleased to present the award this year to **Mrs Barbara Hunt** for her role as Secretary and founder member of the Afternoon Club, for all her work with the Royal British Legion, and poppy organiser for many years in Littlebourne.

Cllr Spratt then thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting at 9.50pm.

Please note details of the new Parish Clerk: Gail Hubbard, c/o 7 Bifrons Road, Bekesbourne, Canterbury CT4 5DE
Telephone: 01227 721500 (office with answerphone). Email: clerk@littlebournepc.org