

**LITTLEBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11 JUNE 2014**

**Present:** Parish Cllr Vivienne Spratt (Chairman)  
Parish Cllr Mike Gallagher  
Parish Cllr Cate Reid  
Parish Cllr Mick Giles  
Parish Cllr Geof Welch  
Parish Cllr Betty Jeffries  
Parish Cllr Pam Evans  
Parish Cllr Geoffrey Barrett  
County Cllr Michael Northey

Mrs Gail Hubbard, Clerk to the Council  
There were two members of the public Mr Batty and Miss Faye Batty.

**30. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllr Ken Shaw (unwell), PCSO Elaine Cannadine (off duty) and Community Warden Gary Moore (attending another meeting). The Chairman then explained that she would like to bring forward the item on playground equipment, as the members of the public in attendance had come to speak on this topic.

**31. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14 MAY 2014**

Cllr Reid proposed and Cllr Gallagher seconded to accept the Minutes as a true record of the meeting.

**32. THE MALTINGS PLAYGROUND AREA**

Miss Batty had written to the Parish Council to ask for help with her complaint over the play area in The Maltings and a request to reconstruct it. She had contacted KCC on several occasions and received no reply. Miss Batty explained to the Councillors that she had carried out a survey of all the residents in the road and got their support. Many of the items have now been removed and nothing new put in place, it is in a very sad state. She also said the play area is important to this road as going to the park at the rec means crossing a dangerous road (the A257). There are lots of young families in the road who want to use the play area. Cllr Spratt said that LPC will take up this matter with CCC, the Clerk will forward on the details and Cllr Spratt will deal with Daniel Gould direct to see what can be done. Cllr Northey also asked to be kept updated in case there was any way he could help.

Mr Batty and Miss Batty departed at 7.10pm

**33. DECLARATIONS OF CLLRS INTERESTS AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION**

There were no declarations of interest or requests for dispensations.

**34. COMMUNITY WARDEN REPORT**

The Clerk read out the following report from Gary Moore;  
Apologies for not being able to attend tonight but I am at another meeting.

The last few months have been quite busy with the flooding and various training courses and annual leave but I am now settling back into a routine of visible presence around the villages and am doing my best to keep on top of events and to respond to incidents when I am informed by both residents and occasionally the Police.

Of late I have been involved in a major Trading Standards initiative to try to stamp out rogue traders in the area and have been following up reports by visiting residents at home.

Also I am greatly involved with working with victims of scam mail and scam calls by home visitation and education of local residents in all the villages in my areas. This is taking up lots of time as I have been tasked to cover most of Canterbury as well.

I have been out and about early mornings to try and catch the dog foulers but have been unsuccessful so far....crafty ones that they are.

I have been engaging with some of the youth in the village and hope that this will calm things down a bit with them in the long term and will endeavour to work some later evenings in the near future and get to know them better.

There have been several cases of fly tipping which have been reported and dealt with and I am keeping an eye on the usual hotspots. The old mill house with the water wheel continues to be a target for problems and I visit it every time I'm in the area. I am hoping to be working closer with the PCSO when possible.

As a warden service things are changing slightly and we may in future be tasked out of our areas on a regular basis. However we are still deeply committed to our own areas so be assured of that.

### **35. ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING**

There was none.

### **36. COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT**

Cllr Northey mentioned the great improvement in the road surface on Bekesbourne Lane, the Cllrs all agreed this was a huge improvement and thanked Cllr Northey for his assistance with progressing these works.

KCC have just produced a 50page document on road casualty reduction, David Brazier will ensure this is made available on the KCC website shortly. Amongst other areas it talks of introducing 20mph speed limits in some places. Cllr Gallagher mentioned the grey area of statistics not always being accurate; many accidents that occur on our roads seem to go unreported to the Police or passed onto KCC. This can give a false record of how safe a road is. Cllr Northey suggested that we could send through our own reports of accidents to KCC.

Cllr Northey talked about the high speed broadband project which is currently underway in Kent. The ambition is that 95% of all households in Kent should be able to get very fast broadband and the remaining 5% over 2mb. The Government have put 9.4m into this scheme and KCC have put in 10m, BT have put in 20m and KCC are currently considering putting further funds into the pot.

Cllr Northey departed at 7.25pm.

### **37. PLANNING**

Planning items on Appendix 2 were noted.

### **38. FENCING OFF OF THE FORD BY LITTLEBOURNE HOUSE**

Land registry searches had been carried out to ascertain the boundaries of the land owned by Littlebourne House. These title searches show the ford itself to not be within their land boundaries, although the fence has been erected to include the ford. On the Wingham side of the river there is a gate but it is fully fenced on the Littlebourne side. This means the main

drainage gullies are now inaccessible. Cllr Giles has already been in touch with the drainage team at KCC to advise them of the problems this could pose.

As the ford would have been part of the original highway it is believed that it is probably still under KCC ownership. Clerk to write to KCC.

### **39. FINANCE**

- (a) RECEIVED the bank statements for May 2014, and RESOLVED the signature of the Chairman thereon;
- (b) NOTED £11.99 will be taken from our account by DD on 14<sup>th</sup> June for our 1x1 website
- (c) NOTED the clerk has invoiced £15.00 for a new LPC News advertiser.

### **AUTHORISATION OF ACCOUNTS**

There were receipts NOTED totalling £5.00. The expenditure list previously circulated to Cllrs as Appendix 3 totalling £4468.05 together with Appendix 3a presented at the meeting totalling £557.05. These were proposed by Cllr Giles and seconded by Cllr Welch so it was RESOLVED that the financial matters and accounts, as set out be authorised for payment.

### **LITTLEBOURNE MEMORIAL WORKS**

It was AGREED that LPC would fund the upfront refurbishment works to the Memorial. Any donations received would be kept separate by the Church and would then be passed onto LPC. Any shortfall would be made up by LPC. Cllr Gallagher to arrange the invoice from Cleverley and Spencer for £659 plus Vat to come direct to the clerk.

### **40. CLERK REPORT**

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

- 1) Making Kent Quicker Update – May 2014

The Making Kent Quicker Project is working hard to bring better broadband to parts of Kent and Medway that would otherwise not benefit from the commercial rollout of superfast broadband services. Over sixty new green cabinets have now gone live, meaning that thousands of homes and businesses are now able to order faster broadband services from their chosen provider. Many more are on the way over the next few months.

Here's what you need to do to find out whether your home or business can already benefit:

1. Check whether your home and business is included in the list of postcodes below of the areas which have already gone live. If it isn't, have a look at our postcode checker to see what is planned or already available for your area ([www.kent.gov.uk/broadband](http://www.kent.gov.uk/broadband)). Unfortunately, not all premises within identified postcodes will be able to access faster broadband services (see below) and the easiest way to check whether you can receive a service is to try and place an order (Please note that if your supplier states that you cannot order a superfast fibre-based broadband product, please check whether you can order a faster broadband product as sometimes this is option is not always highlighted to the customer). Alternatively, you could enter your phone number or address on the BT wholesale website and if one of the featured products lists 'FTTC' (fibre to the cabinet), you should be able to purchase faster broadband services at that address <http://www.dslchecker.bt.com/adsl/adslchecker.welcome>. Some CT1 properties have gone live in this area but others are elsewhere in Kent.
2. To access the new services you will need to contact your chosen broadband service provider (ISP) and order a fibre-based service upgrade. Please note that not all ISPs will immediately offer a service once cabinets are 'ready for service' and there may be a short delay with your chosen provider. You will also need to be aware of your existing contractual commitments – although most providers will allow customers in existing contracts to

upgrade to a fibre package.

3. An engineer will then need to visit your property to install the necessary equipment to enable the service. This will include replacing the face plate on the BT master socket and enabling the service at the local fibre cabinet.

Please note:

Whilst this project is bringing better broadband to many areas that would otherwise not benefit from upgraded services, not all premises in identified postcode areas will be able to order faster fibre-based broadband services. This may be because:

- Some postcode areas are split into different delivery phases for this project (look at the postcode checker on [www.kent.gov.uk/broadband](http://www.kent.gov.uk/broadband) for more information)
- Properties are not always connected to the nearest street cabinet – your broadband service provider should be able to give you more detail if this relates to you.
- Some properties are too far away from their nearest street cabinet to benefit from a speed uplift. Where these properties are currently receiving a service of less than 2mb, the Making Kent Quicker Project has funding to look at alternative technical solutions.

Unfortunately cost constraints mean that it is not possible to bring superfast broadband to all premises within this project. We appreciate how important better broadband is to our residents and businesses so we are working hard looking at all the options – including a new Government funded programme, to further extend the reach of superfast broadband services.

## 2) HEALTHWATCH KENT: WHO ARE WE?

Have you heard about Healthwatch Kent? Not sure who we are, or what we do?

Did you know we are here to **champion** the views of the public? We use the experiences of patients to help make **improvements** to health and social care services across Kent?

Did you know we have a grant pot which we will use to **commission** voluntary organisations to undertake projects on our behalf?

Did you know we have a **FREE** Information & Signposting service to help people find the right health and social care services relevant to them?

### **Want to know more?**

Come and join us at our 'Who Are We' event and find out more. We want to talk to you about how we can work together and how we are looking to commission groups like you, to undertake some project work on our behalf. There are sessions taking place on the following dates, see booking form for further details.

### **21<sup>st</sup> July - Augustine House, Canterbury**

Bookings will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Please download and complete a [booking form](#) and return it to Paula Saunders [enquiries@kentcan.org](mailto:enquiries@kentcan.org). If you have any questions regarding the event please call Paula on 07877 259822.

## 3) The Milestone Society

A letter has been received from The Milestone Society who have carried out a survey of 200 milestones in Kent, many of these require urgent restoration. They are pointing out that the Milestone in Littlebourne on the A257, next to the bridge where the footpath sign is heading to Ickham Mill is in need of attention.

The sign shows the mileage distances to Sandwich/deal & Canterbury/London

#### 4) CANTERBURY DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN PUBLICATION DRAFT JUNE 2014

The Council has published its draft Local Plan, which is the Plan it intends to submit for independent Examination by a Planning Inspector. A Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) of the draft Plan have also been published.

The draft Plan, SA and HRA are published for a period of six weeks, from **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> June to 5pm Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July**. The Publication documents may be viewed on the Council's web-site at [www.canterbury.gov.uk/localplan](http://www.canterbury.gov.uk/localplan), or at the Council's offices:

- Canterbury City Council (Main Office) Military Road Canterbury 8.30am-5pm Mon - Fri
- Herne Bay Divisional Office, William Street, Herne Bay 8.45am-4.45pm Mon – Fri and 9.30am – 1pm Sat

Copies are also available to view during normal opening hours at:

- Canterbury Library – The Beaney, High Street, Canterbury
- Herne Bay Library – 124 High Street, Herne Bay
- Sturry Library – Chafy Crescent, Sturry
- Swalecliffe Library – 78 Herne Bay Road, Swalecliffe
- The mobile Library
- Whitstable Museum – Oxford Street, Whitstable (Thursday to Sunday 11am to 4.30pm)

Comments regarding the draft Local Plan, the SA and the HRA can be made on the Council's web-site at <http://canterbury-consult.objective.co.uk/portal>, by e-mail to [planning.policy@canterbury.gov.uk](mailto:planning.policy@canterbury.gov.uk) or in writing to Planning Policy, Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury, Kent CT1 1YW. The representation form, and guidance on how to make a representation, can be downloaded from the Council's website at [www.canterbury.gov.uk/localplan](http://www.canterbury.gov.uk/localplan), where an online version of the form is also available for use. The use of the representation form is strongly recommended as this will ensure that comments are related to matters relevant to the subsequent examination by a Planning Inspector. Your unique reference number can be found at the top of this letter. All responses will be publicly available and **cannot be treated as confidential**.

**Please note that only representations received by the closing date will be considered by the Inspector.** If you wish to appear at the Examination, you will need to make comments at this stage, although the Inspector will have access to comments made at previous stages. Comments made at this stage will be forwarded to the Planning Inspector for consideration as part of the Examination.

- 5) Cllr Spratt had received a request from The Community 1st responders for funding towards kit, Paddy Mount from Littlebourne is currently undergoing the training to be a 1<sup>st</sup> Responder and is trying to raise funds for the purchase of the equipment he will carry. The initial outlay is £4800 for a 1<sup>st</sup> Responder. It was agreed that LPC are interested in principle but we would like to know more information, such as how are the teams organised, where is the equipment kept, shift patterns etc. Cllr Spratt to seek clarification and report back the Cllrs.
- 6) Concern has been raised by a resident over the use of School Path by cyclists, several people have been seen cycling along this footpath and earlier this week a whole cycling club of men were seen using it as a means to cut off the corner of Bekesbourne Lane, and hence the speed humps. The clerk has checked the OS map and this path is only defined as a footpath not a bridleway so cyclists should not be using it. Clerk to contact PROW and copy in Cllr Northey to ask for signs to be erected at either end of the path. If not LPC could consider their own signage.

Cllr Gallagher also mentioned a missing 30mph sign on the approach into Littlebourne on Bekesbourne Lane, near the entrance to School Path, clerk to double check and report also.

- 7) A telephone call of thanks was received from Duncan Milne for the vouchers, wine and flowers we had given to him as thanks for attending the tribunal at Maidstone and for all his work on the Village Green Application.

## **CLERK REPORT**

### **OVERGROWN HEDGES**

Letters written to several residents in the village.

The path next to the school is looking badly overgrown from the houses in Nargate Street. The path up from Nargate street up to Jubilee is quite overgrown too, this should be cut by KCC PROW but we don't know when this will be done.

The clerk has contacted Littlebourne CEP asking if anything can be done with regard to the roots coming up through the pathway on the path alongside the school.

### **FUNDING FOR DEFIBRILLATOR**

The Clerk has put in an application to the RAMP opportunities fund for £1000 towards buying this, it qualifies as it ticks all the correct boxes on the form, it was worth trying to see if they will give us anything towards it. The deadline was 2<sup>nd</sup> June so we should know soon. The clerk has spoken with James about this and he informed me he has applied for £500 through the 4VPO and is organising a fundraising event. James had also asked if LPC could cover the costs of printing leaflets for his fundraising day. Clerk to check how much but in principle should be OK.

### **PLAY AREA CHECKS**

The clerk has started completing the checklists as Gary is unable to complete them regularly now his area is much larger.

### **PLAY AREA MAINTENANCE**

Park Leisure are to quote to repair the teacup (which is not turning fully and making a nasty noise) and to remove the elephant springer (which is broken) and make good. They have been to site and we are awaiting a price.

### **BROKEN GYM EQUIPMENT**

One of the elliptical trainers is broken, the metal has sheared off. The clerk has put up a notice asking people not to use it and covered the sharp piece with several layers of bubble wrap to make safe.

Cllr Barrett has been in contact with David Lodge who can hopefully weld the break. Ideally this would be done in the workshop but it is proving very difficult to take apart as the safety bolts couldn't be taken off. This is now to be welded onsite as soon as possible.

## **41. ALLOTMENTS**

Clerk to look out Allotment constitution and rules.

## **42. THE BARN**

Cllr Jefferies reported that they are still unsure what CCC are to do with the Barn, the Barn Committee will not proceed with the coffee shop extension (for which they have permission) at present until the future is more certain. Clerk to write to Colin Carmichael to ask what the situation is and for an update.

#### **43. EMERGENCY PLAN**

Cllr Welch reported that an Emergency Plan meeting is to be arranged soon.

#### **44. PLAYAREA**

As the grant had been received from CCC for £1920 towards the resurfacing of the toddler multiplay area on the rec, the clerk had checked with the contractor that the quotation for the works was still valid. It was AGREED that the clerk instruct Abacus to carry out the works as quoted.

#### **45. TWINNING WITH WIMILLE**

Cllr Spratt reported that everything is in place for the Open Gardens on Saturday. There are now 47 adults and 17 children coming by coach and 3 adults and 1 child by car. The clerk has sold 7 tickets to residents so far. Community Warden Gary Moore has volunteered to help Cllr Spratt put up all the signage on Thursday afternoon.

Wimille are also keen to come over for a walking day on either 20 September or 4<sup>th</sup> October. Cllr Spratt has asked Jane Rice if she could put together a route, to include a pub to stop at for lunch on either of these dates.

The proposed Nausicaa trip for August is not looking too promising; the clerk has received little interest from residents. It was felt that perhaps many pensioners no longer held passports, so this would be an expensive trip.

#### **46. CAR PARK RESTRICTION OPTIONS**

Following the demolition of the central post, two possible options had been proposed to prevent larger vehicles accessing the long car park;

- 1 Replacement of the post with another like for like post, which would serve the same purpose
- 2 The construction of a metal gantry, which would restrict the height of the vehicles entering the carpark

Quotations had been sought for both of these options and were discussed, the preferred option was a different shaped post to be fitted back in the position of the old one, this would give a little more width for the vehicles passing through but would not compromise the strength (this type of wood is usually used for breakwaters). A construction grade green oak post 200x200x1800mm – Cllr Barrett showed a sample of the wood to the Cllrs.

It was AGREED to instruct David Lodge to go ahead with this works.

Thanks to be minuted to Peter Goodwin who removed the damaged post with his chainsaw and made safe.

#### **47. MEDIA**

LPC were pleased with the latest edition of the LPC News, there was a query over some articles being very similar to Church & Village. 3 items were doubled up but intentionally – the memorial refurbishment, the Open Gardens and the Nausicaa trip.

#### **48. NATURE RESERVES**

Cllr Evans reported that quotations were being sought for the fence replacement round the edge of the Cherry Orchard Nature Reserve. This was now in a poor state and had also been run into by a car.

Banners to be put up for the Open Gardens on Saturday.

**49. HIGHWAYS**

Cllr Gallagher said LPC had taken the bollards on the fourth corner of Jubilee Road as far as we could, it was now up to KCC to come up with the answers.

Cllr Gallagher was also in receipt of a letter from KCC Planning saying that no HGV ban could be placed on Nargate Street, this has now been taken back to Cllr Northey. Nargate already has “unsuitable for HGV’s” but no actual ban on them using the road.

**50. WAR MEMORIAL HALL TRUST**

Cllr Gallagher reported that the AGM was held on 28<sup>th</sup> May, heavy maintenance is now required to the building, especially the roof. This works to the roof has been instructed to go ahead.

**51. 4VPO**

Cllr Barrett reported that there is to be a change of Chair and Treasurer on the 4VPO committee. A new rent negotiation meeting is to be held later this month between the shop proprietors and the 4VPO community Management Committee representatives.

**52. AOB FOR DISCUSSION ONLY**

Cllrs Gallagher and Giles are to attend the RAMP meeting on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June – the lack of circulation of tree works lists is to be brought up.

Weir Lodge is to be sold – Strutt & Parker have been instructed

LPC are concerned over what is going on at The Pilgrims Hospice in Canterbury.

The meeting closed at 9.35pm.

*Dates of future meetings: 16 July, 10 September, 15 October, 12 November, 10 December*

Signed..... (Chairman)

Date.....

**LITTLEBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL  
PLANNING REPORT, 11 JUNE 2014**

**APPENDIX 2**

**New Applications**

CA//14/00930/FUL Karen Evans	5 The Hill, Littlebourne, CT3 1TA  Proposed rear extension to provide additional ground and first floor facilities.	No objections from Parish Council. Adjacent properties altered so precedent set.
CA//14/01174/FUL Ceri Williams	1 Yew Tree Court, The Hill, Littlebourne, CT3 1TH  Proposed rear first-floor extension	Not yet received papers

**Notifications**

CA/13/2055	Oldridge Wood Lagoons, Swanton Lane, Off Canterbury Road, Littlebourne CT3 4AX  Variation of conditions2 (restoration period),	GRANTED with restrictions as discussed with KCC
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	10(hours of HGC movement) and 11 (traffic management) of planning permission CA/12/606 for the infilling of open lagoons formally used for the disposal of tannery waste.	
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**Trees**

None		
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**Tree lists no longer to be issued**

With regard to the lists of tree works requests in Conservation Areas, the regulations and official guidance advise that local authorities do not need to publicise them, so the City Council has decided that the monthly update will no longer be issued. However, details of all 2014 CA Notices may be found on our web site – please see:

<https://www.canterbury.gov.uk/planning/conservation-and-trees/trees/notice-of-proposed-works-to-trees-in-a-conservation-area/> and follow links to search and comment on planning applications. Click on the “Advanced” tab, enter “TRE” in the Application Reference box, and use the boxes below it to refine your search (e.g. select “Westbere” in the Parish field and enter appropriate values in the Date Validated fields). You can also comment on any Notices submitted by clicking on a case and then on the “Make a Public Comment” box, on the right hand side of the page just below the application summary