

Sep. 21 2000

## LITTLEBOURNE

**Correspondent:** N. File, Northorp,  
3 Church Road, Littlebourne,  
phone 01227 721318.

### PARISH COUNCIL

**Environment:** At the last meeting, Cllr Theakston said good progress was being made. A visit had taken place with the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers with advice on managing the orchard. They were happy with the methodologies being used.

They had chased up the report from the Stour Countryside Project and the report was now in Cllr Theakston's hands. There was a £25 per year subscription to the BTCV that Cllr Theakston thought worthwhile.

There was also information from the Common Ground organisation: a pack had been produced on info for schools. Someone was coming from the Environment Agency to look at the stream/flora. A committee had been formed.

**Memorial hall:** Cllr Robbins reported that the hall meeting had been postponed for a week so there would be no clash with the shop public meeting.

**Highways:** Cllr Giles reported that the coloured surface requested by the parish for the List/Jubilee Road junction had been turned down by the Highways Dept as inappropriate. The clerk had written back requesting that any other plan be considered.

Members looked at the approach signs to the village in the photos shown by Cllr Giles were very good; a Please Drive Slowly sign would be attached. Cllr Flannery requested that clerk arrange another meeting with the highways section as progress seemed to have slowed down on traffic works. In the meanwhile the danger spot at The List should be highlighted in the village newsletter.

**Allotments:** With regard to the allotments, three more had been rented, but all the rest were too overgrown to be rented. Cllr Weaver suggested an annual agreement on clearance would be helpful. It was agreed that plots 50/51 should be cut down and plot 29/41 ploughed if required; the clerk will arrange.

**Post:** The chairman reported that the traffic post on the Green was broken and would be repaired – one quote had already been obtained. £100 had been given towards repair costs.

An additional quote would be obtained.

(grade 2 building), approved.

With regard to the Canterbury College, the chairman felt that the traffic committee should put in a formal objection to the inquiry on traffic congestion grounds. This was agreed. Someone would attend the public inquiry if possible.

**Village shop:** The chairman read members an account of the latest position.

**Other items:** The British Legion would have a cake stall near the car park on Saturday, September 30. The Littlebourne Players wish to deposit £2,000 with the PC for safekeeping, and wish to invest it in short-term loan for the village shop. The chairman will investigate further.

It was agreed that along with other representatives, the clerk, should act as secretary to the Shop Association.

The chairman asked Cllr Robbins to speak to Chris Beere on the Recreation Club with regard to the equipment spread in the open along the back of the hall and alongside the footpath to the car park.

**Next:** The next parish council meeting will be on Thursday, October 19 at 8pm at the memorial hall.

**PO and Shop:** At last week's meeting, Betty Jeffries thanked everyone for their support and for contributions. She said Richard Bartley of RDA had steered everyone through uncharted waters toward the goal, and had come that night to bring the permission to go ahead from SEEDA which he only received that morning.

The list of shareholders and bondholders was available for inspection.

The directors, unanimously elected, are Sally Bradley, Simon Green, Betty Jeffries, Chris Picknell, Robert Spencer, Peter Terrill (WHB), Greg Robbins, Isabel Stephenson.

They will serve for a year, when the shareholders will appoint other (or same) directors for the following year.

There has been a meeting with architect, Amanda Shoebridge, computer installer, so that PO Counters could approve position of PO Section. The computer team would not be ready to put them in till February or March so it was suggested to hold till shop built.

The meeting was told that after interviews it was decided that Raj Patel was the most suitable.

Both he and his wife were postmasters and had very good references. They had had more than 10 years' experience in running a successful PO and shop in Hersden.

There will be a temporary diversion of the footpath while building is in progress.

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## BEKESBOURNE

**Correspondent:** John Anderson, 7 Dering Road, Bridge, Canterbury, CT4 5NA, phone 830260.

**Boules:** The annual competition organised by the Friends of Bekesbourne Church will be held at the Unicorn Inn, Bekesbourne Hill on Sunday, at noon (please note the change of date).

Phone the Unicorn if you wish to take part in the fun, on 830210.

**Supper:** A beef pudding supper is to be held by the Royal British Legion branch at the Unicorn, on Tuesday, October 24. Tickets are £5; ring 721237.

## BISHOPSBOURNE

**Correspondent:** Malcolm Mitchell, The Old Cottage, Bishopsbourne, CT4 5HT, phone 01227 830645.

**Parish Church:** Holy Communion was celebrated by the Rev John Tyler at St Mary's, Bishopsbourne, on Sunday. There will be no service at the church this Sunday, although parishioners are invited to attend any of the services being held in other churches within the United Benefice.

They are: 9.30am Holy Communion, celebrated by Canon John Dilnot, at Womenswold, parish church, or 11am united family service of harvest thanksgiving, St John's Church, Barham.

**New rector:** The united benefice's delegates from Bishopsbourne, Barham Kingston and Womenswold met at the Conrad Hall on Tuesday evening to discuss arrangements for the induction and installation of the new Rector, the Rev Chris Roper.

The service is to be held at St Mary's, Bishopsbourne, on Thursday, December 7. Mr and Mrs Roper are due to move into the Rectory at Barham at the beginning of October following their move from Mr Roper's present living in Dereham, Norfolk.

**Diary dates:** The village's harvest supper is being held on Saturday, October 14, at 7.30pm in the Conrad Hall. Anyone wishing to go is advised to book early as the event is usually very popular and the hall does not have the capacity for all those who would like to attend. Tickets at £5 (children under 16 at £3.50) can be had from Sheila Castle (phone 01227 831184) or Phillipa Burniston (01227 830341). Proceeds from the event are for village hall funds.

The parish's harvest festival service will be held at St Mary's Church a week earlier, on Sunday, October 8, at 11am.

A jumble sale will be held in the Conrad Hall on Saturday, November 11, from 10am to noon, admission 20p, with proceeds going to hall funds. Jumble should be delivered to the hall the previous day between 7 and 8pm. For further information phone Gill Applin, on 01227 700693, or Phillipa Burniston, on 01227 830341.

### PARISH COUNCIL

**Review:** A meeting was held in the Conrad Hall last Wednesday, when the chairman, Cllr Malcolm Mitchell, welcomed councillors back after the summer recess.

It had been arranged that a representative of the city council would attend to discuss with members the local plan review. But the clerk, Gerald Wenham, reported that he was unable to attend and members suggested he should attend the October meeting, if he had recovered in time.

**Playing field:** Progress on the transfer of the ownership of the playing field, in future to be known as Neame's Meadow, was reported and in answer to an inquiry, the city council's legal department is to be informed that all the trees on the playing field are subject to a preservation order.

**Planning:** Members considered the planning application of F.W. Mansfield and Son for the use of land for the storage of seasonal

workers' caravans at their Pett Bottom farm. City councillor Bill Oakey reported that there had been a meeting with Mr Mansfield, the city council's senior planning officer, parish councillor Terry Wilmshurst and himself.

Following discussions on the original plan, it had been suggested that Mr Mansfield should submit a fresh application, taking in recommended changes but he had not so far done so. The parish council is to tell the city council that it felt the original application was not acceptable and it was concerned that revised plans had not been submitted to reflect what was understood to have been agreed by all parties.

The council has offered no objection to a planning application for the conversion of a barn to a residential unit at Middle Pett Farm, Pett Bottom Road, or to the formation of a new vehicle drive at Middle Pett Farm.

**Accounts:** The council formulated its reply to the Audit Commission's Think Piece, in which various options for the auditing of parish council affairs were put forward. The council suggested various changes, based on reports from Mr Wenham and from its own officer Cllr Colin Baker.

**Code of conduct:** The chairman reported that the National Code of Local Government Conduct would be replaced by a new code following the Local Government Act, 2000. The Kent Association of Parish Councils had asked for Bishopsbourne's views on the matters raised in the discussion paper issued by the Local Government Association.

The council considered the 13 sections of the consultation document and agreed its collective responses to the 29 questions posed.

**Complaint:** Cllr Oakley reported on progress made about a complaint of illegal cardboard and plastic waste on a farm in the neighbouring parish of Bridge, which had resulted in air pollution.

Following discussions with the firm responsible, it was stated that cardboard would no longer be burned and plastic waste would be buried, although Cllr Oakey considered that the latter was not satisfactory as plastic was not biodegradable.

**Neighbourhood Watch:** Rodney Chew reported on progress being made to revive a Neighbourhood Watch scheme for the village. He said he had received a welcome pack from the police, but nothing concrete had so far been established.

The council promised its full support for Mr Chew, who said he would keep members informed of any progress.

**Next:** The next meeting will be held in the Conrad Hall at 7.30pm, on Wednesday, October 18.

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## BRIDGE

**Correspondent:** John Anderson, 7  
Dering Road, Bridge, Canterbury  
CT4 5NA.

**Gardeners:** Nailbourne  
Horticultural Society's annual  
social evening will be held in the  
village hall at 7.30pm, on Tuesday,  
November 28, and not Thursday  
28th as published in the

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membership card.

It will be an American Supper and sing-song. There will be no charge, but everyone will be expected to take a plate of food to share.

**Legion:** The Royal British Legion, Littlebourne and District Branch, is looking for collectors for the Poppy Appeal this year. Anyone interested can ring 728507.

For anyone in Bridge who does not know about the branch, its welfare officer Ron Bates (720272) would like to hear from any ex-service person or dependants who feels the Legion may be able to help them.

If unable to reach Mr Bates, people can ring the branch chairman Doug Fenn, on 721327. See under Bekesbourne for the beef pudding supper.

**Coffee morning:** This event for the Maben appeal is on Saturday, 10am to noon, at 7 Windmill Close.

**Gig:** Tomorrow (Friday) evening, soul singer Shann Lee Parker is at the Red Lion, Bridge.

**Church services:** On Sunday services are: 8am, St Peter's Church, Bridge BCP Communion; 10am, St Mary's Church, Patrixbourne, Holy Communion; 11am Bridge Methodist Church service, led by Michael Baybutt.

#### PARISH COUNCIL

**Vacancy:** As no election was called the vacancy on the parish council is to be filled by co-option. Any resident living in Bridge or within three miles of the parish boundary wishing to be considered for the position of parish councillor should send a letter of application to the parish clerk.

Applicants should give brief details about themselves and ensure the letter reaches the clerk at 50 Riverside Close, Bridge, Canterbury, Kent CT4 5TN, by October 13.

**Street furniture:** The benches, which were recently vandalised, have now been repaired and re-sited, one at Green Court and the other at the junction of Bridge Hill and Beech Hill.

Councillors were pleased to accept an offer from Mrs Eades, to purchase another bench in memory of her parents who lived in Ford Close. It is hoped to place the bench in the open area adjacent to Ford Close.

**Flooding:** As a result of recent flooding in the village, the city council was requested to look at the drainage with a view to improving the situation during heavy rainfall. All gullies have been cleaned out, pipes repaired in the High Street and an outlet pipe near Meadow Close is to be repaired shortly.

The parish council has been told that the drains can now cope with normal storm conditions. However, a bid is to be made by the city council to install additional drainage in Town Hill and the High Street, during the next financial year.

**Playground:** The annual inspection of the playground has now been undertaken by RoSPA, which found the equipment and surfacing to be in good repair. Some recommendations have been made which the parish council will follow up.

**Floral competition:** This year's winner of the floral competition for commercial premises was the Plough and Harrow public house. Congratulations go to Chris and Melanie at the Plough and Harrow and to all the other commercial premises which provided such excellent displays during the summer.

**Bulb planting:** The parish council was pleased to accept an offer from a resident to donate bulbs to be planted in the grassed area at the junction of Bridge Hill and Beech Hill.

**Millennium festival:** The September festival to celebrate the Millennium, was another successful event. Both the flower festival in the church and the history display held in the village hall were well supported.

Councillors expressed their thanks to all who had worked so hard to make the weekend a resounding success.

**Planning applications:** The following applications had been received and commented on:  
External alterations to 24 High Street - no objection; two single storey side extensions to 51 Union

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## BRIDGE

**Correspondent:** John Anderson, 7 Dering Road, Bridge, Canterbury CT4 5NA.

**Tea:** An afternoon tea in aid of the Macmillan Fund is to be held at 2.30pm tomorrow (Friday) in Mansfield Court, Riverside Close, Bridge. For details phone Glynnis Austin on 831654.

**Fair:** The table boot fair held by the Nailbourne group League of Friends of Canterbury Hospitals raised £294 towards the cost of a digital camera for the hospital's oncology department in aid of cancer care.

**WI:** The coffee morning was well attended and raised £78 for WI funds. Hostess was Mavis Parsons.

At the last meeting, farmer John Palmer talked about the Heritage Centre at Parsonage Farm, accompanied by slides. The limerick competition on the media was won by Pamela Elgar.

The next meeting will be at the village hall on Tuesday, October 17, at 7.30pm, when the subject will be Tesco home shopping. The competition will be for five home-made biscuits.

**Jumble sale:** The sale in aid of the village playgroup will be held in the village hall on Saturday, October 7, at 2pm, entry free. For collection of jumble contact Joanne Watt on 832343.

**Gig:** On Friday evening, October 6, Mac's Diner rhythm and blues will be at the Red Lion Inn.

**Church news:** The benefice harvest festival lunch will be held at Bridge school hall on Sunday, October 8, at 12.30pm. Tickets are £3 or £8 for a family, from Pat Dunderdale on 830668 or Andrea Nicholson on 830947.

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# BEKESBOURNE

**Correspondent: John Anderson, 7  
Dering Road, Bridge, Canterbury  
CT4 5NA, phone 01227 830260.**

**Millennium walk: The Millennium**

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walk and unveiling of the heritage boards and footpath map will take place on Saturday, October 7. The walk is from the bridge over the Little Stour at Seaton to the pavilion in Bekesbourne Recreation Ground.

It is an easy walk which takes about an hour and a half. Transport leaves Bekesbourne Village Hall at 1.45pm. Anyone requiring transport should book a seat with Joan Atkins (831127).

The walk starts at 2.30pm. There will be a refreshment stop at Well Chapel at 3.30pm where the walk can be joined. Walkers are expected at the Sports Pavilion at about 4pm.

The bar will be open and there will be hot dogs for sale. The ceremony to unveil the boards and map and a Millennium toast to the parish will take place at 4.30pm.

**Boules competition:** Despite stiff competition and a close final, the annual boules competition was won by novices Nick and Rachel from Sandwich. Clive and Cheryl Barker who hosted the event to raise funds for the Friends of Bekesbourne Church.

#### **PARISH COUNCIL**

**Views:** John Watler, principal planner with the city council, attended the September parish council meeting to seek the council's views on the Canterbury district local plan review.

He said he was aware of the parish council's concern about the amount and speed of traffic using Station Road/Bekesbourne Lane and councillors stressed that action on this was a top priority.

**Aerodrome memorial:** It was agreed that the parish council would be willing to take over ownership of the aerodrome memorial from Murston Ltd and to arrange for the names of the squadrons which flew from the aerodrome to be added to the wording on the memorial.

**College:** It was agreed that the parish council would make a joint verbal submission to the Canterbury College public inquiry with Bridge Parish Council.

**Station:** Cllr Howells reported a successful meeting with the station manager from Connex. There were plans to replace the damaged gates, re-surface the platforms, refurbish the shelters and install CCTV.

**Footpaths:** The clerk was asked to speak again to the public rights of way officer about the condition of several parish footpaths.

**Speed cameras:** Following a letter from Jack Gater, the clerk was asked to investigate the feasibility of using council cash to install speed cameras in Station Road.