

**BEKESBOURNE WITH PATRIBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON 13 JULY 2015**

Present: Parish Cllr Andrea Nicholson (Chairman)
Parish Cllr Christine Sladden
Parish Cllr Pauline Pritchard
Parish Cllr Graham Duplock
Parish Cllr Julia Maltby
Parish Cllr David Muggridge
County Cllr Michael Northey (to arrive late at 8.15pm)

Mrs Gail Hubbard, Clerk to the Council
There was one member of the public, Mr Tim Fagan.

19 MINUTES SILENCE IS REMEMBRANCE OF JOE ATKINS

The Council all stood for a minute's silence in respect for Joe Atkins who died in May. Joe was a long standing member of the village and served for many years on the Parish Council and RGMC.

20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from City Cllr Stuart Walker (attending CCC meeting), County Cllr Northey had advised he would arrive late as he was attending Adisham PC first then coming on to us.

21 CO-OPTION OF NEW PARISH COUNCILLOR

The Chairman proposed the co-option of Tim Fagan onto the PC. This was seconded and AGREED by all. Cllr Fagan duly signed the declaration form and sat with the Councillors.

22 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11 MAY 2015

The minutes from the previous meeting were agreed and duly signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting. It was decided a write up would be done by the Chairman again to meet the On The Nail deadline from tonight's meeting, and perhaps some detail could be put into the village column in the Gazette. Jill to be asked.

23 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

It was noted that the housing survey had gone out, this should have been received by every household in the parish, and the response deadline was 8th July. We would now await the results back from Action with Communities in rural Kent, who had carried out the survey.

24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

There were no declarations of interest or requests for dispensations relating to this meeting.

25 REPORT FROM CITY COUNCILLOR

Cllr Walker had provided a report for the meeting, the Clerk read out as follows;

Please accept my apologies for not being able to be with you tonight. Unsurprisingly at the beginning of any new council, a lot of time is spent planning the strategy for the next four years. Tonight is one such occasion where I have been asked to attend a meeting that will help shape further the direction of the city council.

Simon Cook and I were very pleased to support the joint application for funding from Bridge and Bekesbourne with Patribourne Parish Council for a skate board day and it is brilliant to see Parish Councils working together on events and hopefully this will continue. As was

discussed at the RAMP meeting we would very much encourage the two Parish Council to invite young people from other parishes South of Canterbury to the event. Hope the planning goes well and we look forward to visiting the event in the autumn.

I attended the Serco meeting last month which I found to be very informative. There still seems to be some work that needs to be carried out to ensure that some of the issues that happened recently do not happen again. There is definitely going to have to be ongoing dialogue with regards to the contract that they currently have and any further information that you can give me, or anything that you want me to follow up on, please let me know and I will action accordingly.

I have submitted a motion to be considered by the full council to rescind the sale of the Mill Centre in Bridge. This hopefully should be sent to committee in the Full Council meeting later this month.

I am also hoping to submit motions to the Rural area members panel on speed limits in villages and outside schools, to be considered by full Council before putting a proposal to KCC. Also a proposal to discuss if any money could or should be spent to celebrate the Queens 90th birthday next year, in the form of a large party? Any comments on these would be greatly appreciated.

I am pleased to announce that I have been able to organise 2 surgeries in Bridge and Littlebourne the first one being on 16 July starting at 9:30 and in Littlebourne on 23 July. These will give local residents who may not have had the opportunity to get in contact with the citizens advice bureau previously, the chance to attend a drop-in session to make first contact. There are two further sessions planned for September and it is hoped that if they are successful that we will get the funding to be able to continue.

Like you I have received my report from Lisa Williams last week and it is great that they have continued to update us with information for our area. Thank you to Lisa and to Carl.

A257 meetings have been resurrected following the election and I should hope to be able to attend them in the future. Unfortunately I wasn't able to attend the brainstorming session that was held recently but I would hope that some of these points could be raised at RAMP In the future

26 REPORT FROM PCSO

The Clerk had received a report from the PCSO Lisa Williams as below;
Report from 01/06/15 to 30/06/15.

Crime Report Incidents

- There has been (5) crime report incidents relating to thefts, threat to damage property, assault , making off without payment.

Police Related Incidents

- Numerous calls made to the police in relation to suspicious events from a young offender knocking on doors trying to sell items from a bag, Blackmail involving on-line gaming, parking obstructions, disturbances, threats from builders towards a resident, concern for dog welfare, threats to a person, RTC non-injury, drugs information, firearms incident, noise issue, bad driving near school, thefts, dog biting a person and neighbourhood dispute.

- I have been paying passing attention to ‘ Old Palace Road’ Patricbourne and I’m pleased to say the area has been free of Fly-tipping for a while now. This was queried by PC as not aware of any recent issues in Old Palace Rd.

Lisa had also been on foot patrol Friday night (10th July) visiting the recreational grounds on Bridge and Patricbourne. No sign of any new graffiti and nobody seen. Also no fly-tipping seen.

The clerk also mentioned she had now received some further information on graffiti removal from the PCSO following the recent graffiti on the play equipment on the recreation ground. Thank you to Jill Thomas and Mr & Mrs Relf who had cleaned off the graffiti, as Serco had not attended.

27 ADOPT EMERGENCY PLAN

This had now been completed and could be circulated to the necessary people at CCC and KCC, a non sensitive copy without contact details would be uploaded onto the parish website.

Cllr Northey arrived at 8.15pm

Cllr Duplock proposed that we adopt this plan, this was seconded by Cllr Pritchard, and AGREED by all. It was agreed that it be reviewed in four years time, unless an incident occurs, after which it would then be reviewed. Any contacts and numbers should be updated as and when.

Cllr Maltby said thank you to Cllrs Nicholson, Duplock and Sladden and the Clerk for all their work in putting this plan together.

28 COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

Cllr Northey reported he was continuing to nag about the state of the road (Bekesbourne Lane, Station Rd, Bifrons Hill) to Highways, and he was hoping for resurfacing next year.

Countywide, there is a full Council meeting in Maidstone on Thursday 16th July, and last Wednesday 8th July there had been an education meeting, which Cllr Northey had attended, with lots of talk on school places and targets for improvements to schools.

There are 101 secondary schools in Kent and 450 primary schools, under KCC’s control. 600 schools in total in Kent (academies are not under KCC control). These schools not under KCC control are still included within the Kent statistics

82% of schools are either good or outstanding as rated by Ofsted, this is a fraction above the national standard; the aim is to get to 90% by 2020.

There are currently only 9 schools in Kent that are in special measures.

There has been a massive increase in the birth rate recently, with allowance for migration KCC aim to have 5% surplus spaces within schools across the county.

Cllr Duplock raised some of the action plan points that have gone to the A257 group, summarised as below;

1. Condition of the road surface from Littlebourne right through to A2.
2. Use of Littlebourne to A2 route as an “unofficial SE Canterbury bypass” (words used in an email from our KCC councillor in a recent email to Parish Council).

3. Speed of traffic along Bekesbourne Lane (40mph) and Station Road (40 & 30mph). Speedwatch surveys show up to 30% of drivers exceeding 30mph limit approach to Patribourne roundabout.
4. Pedestrian safety from Lackenden Cottages, Howletts Farm Oast and Howletts Oast along Bekesbourne Lane to either Littlebourne or Bekesbourne railway bridge. Residents cannot safely walk or ride with their children to school.
5. Safety of Howletts visitors who arrive by rail at Bekesbourne station.
6. 20mph limit for The Street, Patribourne.
7. Drainage problems on Station Road (hopefully solved by recent work) and Bekesbourne Lane opposite Howletts.
8. Concern over increased traffic on Bekesbourne Lane and Bekesbourne Hill resulting from proposed link road from Military Road to Littlebourne Road.
9. Speed of traffic on Bekesbourne Hill (40mph limit).

The effects of operation stack on the rural villages and main road in Kent was discussed. It was noted the layby in Bridge was full of parked HGV's and several had been seen cutting through to the A257 last week.

Cllr Northey departed at 8.40pm

29 PARISH MATTERS

REPORT BACK FROM POLICE FORUM

Cllr Pritchard had attended this meeting on 19th May, she reported there were very few attendees and nothing hugely relevant had been discussed. There had been a PCSO in attendance.

CHAIRMAN'S MEETING - LITTLEBOURNE

Cllr Duplock attended this on behalf of the Chairman, Cllr Gallagher, Littlebourne's Chairman had called this meeting of all PC's along the Nailbourne Valley to discuss the impact of the potential development of 87 houses in Littlebourne on the sewerage and drainage system. Also the possible impacts of development along this valley in general, small or largescale.

MOBILE SKATE PARK DAY

Cllr Muggridge attended and spoke at the RAMP meeting on 22nd June along with two Cllrs from Bridge, Cllr Sole and Cllr Faulke. The grant applied for was awarded in full. A Committee to arrange the event is being set up, two Cllrs from Bridge Cllr Sole and Cllr Barry will join with Cllr Muggridge, Cllr Sladden and the clerk to arrange the day. The date is to be agreed a.s.a.p. and the equipment hire booked. The event will be during the October half term break.

RECREATION GROUND UPDATE

Cllr Muggridge also reported back from the RGMC meeting held on 8th July, where the demise of the Sports Club was discussed. This means the lease with the committee ceases to exist. Various senior and youth clubs would like to continue to use the ground, and this will now be negotiated directly between the clubs and RGMC directly over the next few weeks. This will retain more control over who is uses the pitches and the maintenance of the pavilion.

This Sunday, 18th July there is an open afternoon between 2-5pm where residents are invited to come along with a picnic and enjoy the Rec and meet with other residents.

Cllr Maltby departed at 9.25pm

FUNDING TOWARDS CULVERT WORKS

The PC have been approached to consider some funding towards the works required to the river channel in Patricbourne. The yew tree right next to the road bridge is to be removed and the channel itself is to be straightened by removing a section of bank. The quote for this is £1200. The EA, CCC and KCC Highways are all involved in this proposal but unfortunately Patricbourne is low on the priority list for funding due to the small number of properties affected. The PC AGREED to make a contribution towards the works of approx ¼ of the cost, on the proviso that the other funds could be found from the residents. So £300 could be made available.

30 CORRESPONDENCE

- A. Canterbury Local Plan** – a letter was received from resident Bernard Woods regarding an opportunity to write to the Planning Inspector, as part of the Local Plan examination process. The potential food crisis, with the amount of imported food we buy, will only increase with the use of more farm land for development. He is encouraging PC's to write to the Planning Office to try and preserve our farmland and ensure enough water is made available. Cllrs felt we had already aired these points in our initial letters sent to CCC Planning when the Local Plan was being drafted.
- B. Barton Court Grammar School**
A letter was received from the Headteacher asking us to participate in their formal consultation. This began on 30th June and runs until 18th September, with the proposal to build a new block on the school field, adjacent to the sports hall and to move the tennis courts to the top field. The new build will consist of a new main entrance, car parking for staff and visitors, bus drop off and pick up points, school hall, kitchen and dining facilities, washrooms, 3 science labs and 7 classrooms. This will give the school the opportunity to expand to 5 form entry. It was agreed the PC would be in favor of this extension to the school, clerk to return consultation document.
- C. Update from CCC on Concurrent Funding**
The below information was reported to RAMP on 22nd June;

Summary of recommendations

Multi-year funding	Create advance 4 year funds for eligible functions from 2017/18
Create contingency budget	Ringfence a proportion of the total budget for emergency requests
Footway lighting upgrading	Upgrading lighting to reduce costs - transfer ownership to KCC/CCC

Parishes submitted accurate information with regards to the type of work that is carried out, the location of the work, who owns the land this takes place on, the size of the area maintained, and any further info about the usage of the site. CCC are also compiling a comprehensive and accurate data base of parishes' assets and maintenance responsibilities to inform things moving forward, and ensure true cost comparisons with urban areas. As the allocations are not in fact grants, but are reimbursements for services carried out on behalf of the city council, there is also a proposal that this area of work could sit in the Contracts and Commissions team in future, which will be explored as part of refinements to the application process.

The review is scheduled for completion by August 2015, with recommendations being taken to committee after that time. For this year's application process it will be necessary to use the existing format and criteria as review recommendations will not have been finalised and agreed by Committee in time to action improvements.

D. **Country Eye - Helping Keep the Rural Community in Kent Safe**

Country Eye Ltd have built a free App for people living and working in the rural community. The app allows users to record and share information on crime, suspicious behaviour and damage in their home community or whilst out and about.

The Country Eye app identifies four different Rural Categories which make up the majority of incidents that occur in the countryside.

Theft: Vehicle, Metal & Cable, Machinery & Plant, Livestock, Outbuilding, Fuel & Oil and Equine.

Farm Crime: Arson, Fly-Tipping, Trespass with and without Firearms, Criminal Damage and Suspicious behaviour with and without vehicles.

Animal, Wildlife Crime: Poaching, Animal Welfare, Endangered Species & Conservation, Hare Coursing and Horse Crime.

Heritage Crime: Off-roading and Metal Detecting/Night Hawking

The app has a knowledge section which highlights the key factors for each type of incident above to assist users. Sign up is simple; the system requires a contact number, email address and postcode. The app records and disseminates information using the phones camera and GPS location settings. Recording information is intuitive; users will click the camera icon, take an image, choose from a drop-down the type of crime, whether a crime reference number has been issued, and any other useful information. The location, time and date will be automatically recorded. The app can also use an existing image from the camera's photo library.

The application is not intended for emergency purposes; users should report to; 999 – (crime in progress) 101 – (crime committed) or report to Crimestoppers if they wish to remain anonymous – 0800 555 111

CLERK REPORT

JAPANESE KNOTWEED

Cllr Pritchard reported that there was potentially Japanese Knotweed growing on the edge of the mini roundabout, this has been reported through to highways who have come back to say it will be sprayed in September and has been added to their noxious weed spreadsheet so it can be monitored and treated every year.

31 APPROVE PAYMENTS/TRANSFERS

The following cheque payments were APPROVED by all;

CHQ753 David Frost audit	£50.00
CHQ754 Southern Water allotment bill	£32.66
CHQ755 Playmaintain – play area repairs	£594.00
CHQ756 Clerks salary May & June	£640.64
CHQ757 Clerks expenses May & June	£58.91

32 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

CA/15/01307/FUL	Loft conversion with rear pitched dormers. 3 St Mary's Road, Bekesbourne, CT4 5BY	Papers given to Cllrs for circulation. Cllr's Duplock, Muggridge & Nicholson to view.
CA/15/01329/FUL	Installation of solar PV panels on the roof of a commercial warehouse (planning ref CA/13/02398) Highland Court Farm, Coldharbour Lane, Bekesbourne CT4 5HW	No objections from PC
CA/15/01232/FUL	New warehouse with office, yard and parking. Small Plot, Canterbury Business Park, Highland Court Farm, Coldharbour Lane, Bridge, CT4 5HW	No objections from PC
CA/15/01070/FUL	Upgrade of existing telecommunications installation to facilitate new 4G services. Proposed works comprise the replacement of 2 no. antennas and 1 no. cabinet, the extension of 1 no. cabinet and the addition of 1 no. cabinet and 3 no. 600mm dishes. Creation of new gate in compound fence and development ancillary thereto. Highland Court Farm, Coldharbour Lane, Bekesbourne, CT4 5HW	No objections from PC
CA/15/00663/LB	Change 6no windows on second floor from upvc to painted timber The Old Vicarage, School Lane, Bekesbourne CT4 5ER	GRANTED 18/05/2015
CA/15/00136/FUL & CA/15/00142/LB	Conversion of outbuilding to residential annexe including rebuilding of the rear wing; erection of a garage and formation of a new entrance and driveway. Bifrons House, The Street, Patrixbourne CT4 5DA	GRANTED 11/05/15
CA/00006/FUL	The Barton, Patrixbourne Rd, Bekesbourne CT4 5BP. Demolition of garage and construction of two storey dwelling.	AWAITING DECISION

33 ACCIDENTS OR HGV MOVEMENTS

The clerk reported that the A2 slip road had been closed Friday evening due to an accident.

34 AOB – FOR DISCUSSION ONLY

Cllr Nicholson reported that lead had been taken from St Mary's Church roof, this was discovered on 27th June and a lot of damage had been caused. This has been reported to the Police.

Cllr Pritchard asked if the PC could write to Highland Court farm and ask them to cut back the tree outside no 1 St Mary's Road as it is overhanging the pavement and road.
Cllr Duplock mentioned that the verge on Chalkpit had now been cut, thanks to Gary Walters at Highland Court Farm for arranging this.

Cllr Duplock also mentioned there is a VHCM tomorrow night at 8pm, 14th July.

The Council would like to arrange a speedwatch session for September – clerk to organise.

Cllr Muggridge had checked on KCC's website to see when the broadband upgrades would be available in our area, this should be July/August 2015.

The meeting closed at 10.10pm

Signed..... (Chairman)

Date.....