



BEKESBOURNE WITH PATRIXBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

September Agenda Pack

Item 7.1 County Cllr Report

Not yet received –

Item 7.2 City Councillor Report

Councillor Lee Castle

Little Stour & Adisham Ward - Canterbury City Council



Summer 2024 Update lee.castle@councillor.canterbury.gov.uk

Those that are eagle eyed may have noticed that there was not an update from myself in July. I was holiday for most of the month so have created this combined summer update.

There have been very few parish council meetings as is usual for this time of year.

A few weeks ago now, it was excellent to hear, that all the hard work from residents, councillors and parish councils helped to push back the A257 closure. County Councillor Mike Sole has taken KCC to task and when the closure finally does take place more joined up thinking will hopefully be put in place by Stagecoach and Taylor Wimpey.

It was great to see the press release by the City Council regarding the action on bins. I have been chasing this issue relentlessly, with several residents having many weeks of bin collection problems, including my own road. The changes to rounds, working practices, more engagement from management and the IT support team have seen big improvements across the district, but as always, please do report any issues online or call 01227 947860

In Patricxbourne the 20mph speed zone is moving forward and I have been dealing with case work around social housing and bin collections.

In Wickhambreaux I have chased some old outstanding issues around housing and waste collection.

In Adisham I have been to chasing tree and bin problems, fly tipping and housing cases.

In Littlebourne it was fantastic to see progress from KCC and various agencies with regards to a court order to stop waste dumping along Swanton lane.

There has been an uptick in fly tipping in mostly rural and remote roads over the summer, so please do report an items you witness online.

My family and I attended the Ickham Fayre and Dog Show on Saturday 31st August, given the short length of time since they started planning, it was really great day. A friend kindly lent us their two dogs, who both won rosettes and a lovely goodie bag, filled with all sorted of doggy delights! And it was great to so many people came out to support a super event.

September sees me attending Littlebourne Parish Council meeting, planning committee meetings and also Adisham and Bekesbourne Parish Council meeting. I will be attending the public enquiry for Adisham Woods at the Guildhall on 3rd September, and I will be attending an A257 group meeting,

Finally on 3rd September our local Police Officer will be at the Ivy Barn from 2-4pm for a pop-in session, I will be joining him from 3pm, so please do come along to discuss any new or existing issues.

As always please get an in touch with anything I can be of assistance with.

10.1 Highway Matters: Any Updates

Following the resurfacing of Station Road/Bekesbourne Lane, the roundels that were newly painted have not been replaced. I have raised this with our Highways Officer, and this should be rectified soon.

10.2 20mph at Patrixbourne

I have prepared some public engagement documentation (below) to distribute to all properties in the Patrixbourne area.

Council to note. (And perhaps some volunteers to help with distribution or approval for expenditure to post?)

Have Your Say

20mph limit for roads in Patrixbourne.



Bekesbourne With Patrixbourne Parish Council have been working with KCC Highways and as part of our HIP (Highway Improvement Plan.) We had requested a speed reduction for several roads in the parish, including The Street, Station Road and Bekesbourne Lane. Unfortunately, Station Road and Bekesbourne Lane did not meet the criteria for a speed reduction due to a combination of factors, mainly that traffic assessments show that the current speed limits are appropriate for the road design, surrounding environment, and usage patterns. Consequently, KCC determined that reducing the speed limit would not significantly enhance safety or improve traffic flow in these areas.

However the average speeds in Patrixbourne would support a 20mph limit being implemented on the roads as shown in the plan adjacent. However, this can only happen if support is demonstrated by the residents of the village. So please share your views. Estimated costings are £5,500. Highways would contribute to some of the cost but BWP PC would need to fund the remainder (we already have funding set aside for this project).

Please return the below form to the Clerk either via email clerk.bwp@outlook.com or leave in the black external postbox at 1 Hollytree Cottages, Station Road, Bekesbourne CT45EG. This survey can also be completed online via our website www.bekesbournewithpatrixbourne.co.uk

We welcome your response by 10th October 2024. Thank you.
Bekesbourne-With- Patrixbourne Parish Council

ACT NOW

Would you support of a 20mph limit for these roads in Patrixbourne?
YES/NO
What would be your reasons for this answer?
Do you have any further comments you would like to make?

10.3 Speedwatch

Alan Watson from Kent Police should be in attendance at this meeting to discuss further. I have shared the link to register, and hopefully we now have a bank of volunteers.

Littlebourne PC are happy to loan their equipment, at no cost. But we need to tell our insurers, to make sure it is covered. Will arrange logistics with Littlebourne Clerk once we have an idea of when.

11.1 To note August/Sept payment schedule & approve any new payments.

August/September Payment Schedule

Payments Made in August/September as per financial regulations.

Date	Type	Payment	Amount
Aug 24	DD	Hugofox	£23.99
August 24	SO	Clerk Salary	As per salary Sheet
September 24	FPO	Ovenden All Works	£870.00

Payments Due for Approval:

Recipient	Detail	Amount
N. Purcell	HP Ink reimbursement Sept	£9.99
N. Purcell	Phone bill (Jun-Sept)	£20.00

11.2 To Approve the Q1 Accounts

The Q1 Accounts run from April- June. Due to this being a public document, staff salary has been omitted within the Receipts/Payments document due to GDPR; with the information Commissioners' Office stating that staff salary details are exempt; in addition, in the JPAG Finance Guide net salaries must not be published. All salaries have been paid as per the salary slips each month, which our Internal Auditor checks each year as part of the council's internal audit.



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Bekesbourne with Patrixbourne Parish Council								
Quarter 1 Accounts 2024/25 (1st April-30th June)								
Receipts			Payments					
Date	Ref	RECEIPTS	£	Date cleared	Reference:	PAYMENTS	£	
15.04.24	BGC	CCC Precept	£ 23,164.00	02.04.24	FPO	Mazars LLP	£ 756.00	
10.05.24	FPI	Allotment- Ellis	£ 39.19	02.04.24	FPO	Clerk Phone (dec-march)	£ 20.00	
10.05.24	FPI	Allotment- Morris	£ 26.13	02.04.24	FPO	clerk ink	£ 9.99	
10.05.24	FPI	Allotment- Thrift	£ 13.06	15.04.24	SO	Clerk Salary	£ [REDACTED]	
13.05.24	FPI	Allotment- Garbutt	£ 20.56	15.04.24	DD	Hugo Fox	£ 23.99	
13.05.24	FPI	Allotment- Romanowicz	£ 13.06	30.04.24	SO	Clerk Salary	£ [REDACTED]	
21.05.24	FPI	Allotment- Hirst	£ 52.26	15.05.24	DD	Hugo Fox	£ 23.99	
28.05.24	FPI	Allotment- Rhodes	£ 14.52	30.05.24	SO	Clerk Salary	£ [REDACTED]	
30.05.24	BGC	HMRC (VAT return)	£ 6,692.14	07.06.24	FPO	RGMC CFF contribution	£ 4,193.00	
30.05.24	FPI	Allotment- Tuffey	£ 23.23	07.06.24	FPO	hall hire fees	£ 168.00	
31.05.24	BGC	HMRC (VAT return)	£ 31,494.23	17.06.24	DD	Hugo Fox	£ 23.99	
Cash held			£ -					
Total Income			£ 61,552.38	Total				£ 7,742.26

Treasurers Balance as at 30.06.2024	£ 81,335.68
Instant Access Savers Balance as at 30.06.24	£ 1.09
Total:	£ 81,336.77



11.3 S106 Funding (Update/Playground Discussion)

Overview

This report provides a detailed explanation of the S106 funding allocations that Canterbury City Council has been holding on behalf of the Parish Council, now ready to be released for specific uses related to the enhancement and improvement of various open spaces and recreational areas within the parish. These funds have been secured as part of the S106 contributions from the development at Aspinall Close. S106 contributions are provided by developers to mitigate the impact of new housing developments on the local community and infrastructure. These funds are designated for specific purposes, such as enhancing community facilities, to ensure that the growing population continues to have access to adequate recreational and green spaces.

Below is a breakdown of the allocated amounts and their intended uses.

1. Children's Outdoor Play Areas

- **Amount:** £23,428
- **Purpose:** This funding is earmarked specifically for upgrading and improving children's outdoor play areas in open spaces.
- **Potential Uses:**
 - Installation of new play equipment (e.g., swings, slides, climbing frames).
 - Safety improvements, such as rubberized flooring or fencing.
 - Accessibility enhancements, including ramps and sensory play equipment.
 - Refurbishment of existing play structures.
 - Landscaping around play areas to improve aesthetics and safety.

Clerk Recommendation: The Council has previously discussed the possibility of combining this allocation with the roundabout funds, which could be a valuable approach to maximize the impact of the available resources. However, I recommend that, before making any final decisions, the Council should consider conducting a new survey to assess the current needs and preferences of the community, particularly in relation to children's play areas. The last survey was conducted approximately eight years ago, and community needs and expectations may have shifted since then. A new survey would provide updated insights into which play equipment or safety features are most desired, helping to ensure that the funds are allocated in a way that best meets the current needs of local children and their families. This will not only help prioritize spending but also enhance community engagement and satisfaction with the final outcomes.

2. Outdoor Sport

- **Amount:** £7,063
- **Purpose:** This allocation is designated for the enhancement and upgrading of outdoor sports facilities within open spaces.
- **Potential Uses:**

- Renovation of existing sports fields, including re-turfing and drainage improvements.
- Installation or upgrading of sports equipment (e.g., goalposts, basketball hoops).
- Creation or enhancement of multi-use game areas (MUGAs).
- Improvement of access pathways and seating areas for spectators.
- Provision of additional amenities like changing rooms or shelters.
- Addition of outdoor gym equipment

Clerk Recommendation: The Parish Council should liaise closely with the Recreation Ground Management Committee (RGMC) to determine how this funding can best support ongoing renovations or the broader goal of improving facilities for local football teams and potentially cricket activities. While these funds present an opportunity to enhance sports amenities, it's important to note that the money cannot simply be handed over to the RGMC; it must be spent on specific, agreed-upon improvements. This is crucial to ensure that we can accurately report back on how the funds are used, providing evidence such as invoices and detailed accounts of the expenditures. I recommend arranging a meeting with the RGMC to discuss their current needs and future aspirations, ensuring that the funds are used effectively and in alignment with both the Council's and the community's priorities.

3. Semi-Natural Open Spaces

- **Amount:** £3,267
- **Purpose:** The funding is aimed at the upgrading and improvement of semi-natural open spaces.
- **Potential Uses:**
 - Enhancing biodiversity through planting native species or creating wildflower meadows.
 - Improvements to walking trails, including signage and seating.
 - Creation of educational features such as information boards or nature trails.
 - Installation of conservation measures, like bird boxes or bat roosts.
 - Management of invasive species and general ecological maintenance.

Clerk Recommendation: This funding category offers some flexibility and can be effectively utilized to enhance biodiversity within the parish. One idea previously discussed was the creation of a sensory garden near the playground. The advantages of this project include providing a multi-sensory experience for children and adults alike, fostering a deeper connection with nature, and potentially serving as an educational resource. Additionally, the Council may want to consider whether there is a need for more trees or other natural features around the recreation ground. However, it's important to note that our options for using this fund are limited by the availability of land, with the recreation ground and play area being the primary locations. The Council should weigh the benefits of these potential projects against the spatial constraints and determine the most impactful use of the funds.

4. Amenity Open Spaces

- **Amount:** £9,184
- **Purpose:** This amount is intended for upgrading and improving amenity open spaces.
- **Potential Uses:**
 - Landscaping enhancements, such as planting trees, shrubs, or flowers.
 - Creation of picnic areas, benches, or other seating options.
 - Improvement of pathways, lighting, and access points.
 - Installation of public art or community features (e.g., community gardens).
 - Maintenance and upgrades of existing structures like gazebos or shelters.

5. Parks and Gardens

- **Amount:** £4,332
- **Purpose:** This funding is allocated for the improvement and upgrading of parks and gardens within open spaces. This allocation can be combined with the Amenity Open Space S106 funding for larger projects.
- **Potential Uses:**
 - Enhancement of ornamental gardens, including planting and maintenance.
 - Installation of water features, sculptures, or other decorative elements.
 - Creation or upgrading of garden pathways and seating areas.
 - Improvement of accessibility features, such as ramps and handrails.
 - General park enhancements like additional litter bins, signage, or fencing.

Clerk recommendation: The funding allocated for Amenity Open Spaces (£9,184) and Parks & Gardens (£4,332) can be combined to support more substantial improvements. One potential use for these combined funds could be to enhance access to the open spaces. This could involve the installation of new gates, which would improve security and accessibility, or repairing and replacing fencing, such as the section that has come down behind the playground. By addressing these access and safety issues, the Council can ensure that the open spaces are more welcoming and secure for all users. Combining the funds allows for a more significant project that can have a lasting impact on the community.

Conclusion

The S106 funds offer an excellent opportunity to enhance the quality and accessibility of the parish's open spaces, benefiting the community as a whole. By strategically applying these funds to the designated areas, the Parish Council can ensure that these improvements meet the current and future needs of residents, particularly in fostering safe and welcoming environments for outdoor play, sports, and recreation.

We need to have requested the money by 14/10/2025.

It is recommended that the Parish Council prioritizes the projects based on community needs and the potential impact of each improvement. The possibility of combining the Parks and Gardens funding with the Amenity Open Space allocation should be considered for larger or more comprehensive projects.

Agenda item 13 Allotments

- The fence has been fixed as agreed.
- We've had one long-term plot holder (Plot 5) give up their tenancy. The tenant from Plot 8 has now swapped to this vacant plot.
- The tenants of Plot 10 have expressed a desire to step away from their tenancy. The tenant of Plot 2 has shown interest in acquiring a second plot.
- Currently, there is one (new) person on the waiting list for a plot. I will be offering one of the two available plots to this individual, while the other, if no takers externally, could be offered to current tenants who have shown interest in having a second plot. I'm unsure how the council currently feels about tenants holding multiple plots, as there was a previous effort to minimize this practice. Any guidance on this matter would be appreciated.