BEKESBOURNE WITH PATRIXBOURNE PARISH COUNCILJanuary 2025 Agenda Pack

Agenda Item 7: External Reports
7.1County Councillor Reports
No report.

7.2City Councillor Reports

Councillor Lee Castle

Little Stour & Adisham Ward - Canterbury City Council



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

Happy New Year! As we bid farewell to 2024 and welcome in 2025, it is clear that local government is facing significant changes. One of the most notable is the potential dissolution of Canterbury City Council, which could have lasting effects on local governance and decision-making. This is especially important for rural areas, where ensuring that local voices are heard will be vital as we navigate the coming months of transition and uncertainty.

In December, several meetings and activities highlighted the challenges and priorities of local communities. Parish council meetings and a planning committee session offered valuable opportunities to delve into local issues. A particularly well-attended event was the Little Stour and Nailbourne River group meeting, which saw a wide range of stakeholders gather, including representatives from Southern Water, the Environment Agency, local council staff, riparian owners, volunteers, flood wardens, and parish Councillors. It was encouraging to see such a diverse group working together to the river and their surroundings.

Looking ahead, the contentious Gladman Site development in **Littlebourne** is set to reach a decision soon. This has been a divisive issue in the community, and updates on its future will be shared through the parish council, both locally and online, to ensure residents stay informed. December also saw progress on various practical matters, including housing issues, bin collection problems, and discussions about recruiting volunteers for Speed watch in **Ickham and Well**. These ongoing efforts highlight the commitment to resolving everyday concerns affecting residents.

In Adisham, attention focused on parking enforcement and concerns about the school bus service, both crucial issues for local families. Littlebourne also addressed parking enforcement, alongside a planned meeting with the head of the local primary school, reinforcing the connection between local government and education. In Bekesbourne and Patrixbourne, discussions included matters on footpaths, bins, and queries about a small development approved on Aerodrome Road. Wickhambreaux residents have also contacted me about the development in Pear Orchard. In Bramling, has been continued work on an ongoing fly-tipping issue, while in Stodmarsh, discussions centred on changes to the catchment map and their potential impact on planning and new homes.

Despite the uncertainties ahead, the Christmas period offered a welcome opportunity to spend time with loved ones, reflect on the past year, and anticipate the challenges and opportunities the new year will bring. The commitment to representing rural communities in the Canterbury district remains firm, no matter the future of the council structures.

In January, my plans include attending various parish meetings, planning committee, Full Council and briefings on the changes brought by devolution.

The year ahead promises both challenges and opportunities. By remaining dedicated and engaged, we can ensure the voices of rural communities are heard and given proper consideration in the decision-making processes that will shape the region's future. Through ongoing involvement, we can navigate these changes and work towards a stronger, more inclusive future for all.

Agenda Item 8: Any s101 Delegated Authority items to be noted by council.

None

Agenda Item 10: Highways Matters

10.1 Any updates

10.2 20mph limit at Patrixbourne(update)

No update

10.4 Speedwatch

Awaiting Training Date

Agenda Item 11: Finance Matters

11.1 To note January payment schedule & approve any new payments.

January Payment Schedule

Payments Made in August/September as per financial regulations.

Date	Туре	Payment	Amount
16 th December 24	DD	Hugofox	£23.99
30 th December 24	SO	Clerk September	As per salary Sheet
		Salary	

Payments Due for Approval:

Recipient	Detail	Amount
Forvis Mazars	2023/24 External	£252.00
	Audit Fees	

11.2 S106 Funding (update)

Ongoing. Awaiting update from RGMC.

Agenda Item 12: Planning

12.1 To Receive Updates on previous consultee responses None

12.2 To Discuss any new applications

Application: CA/24/02229

Location: 3 Downside Villas Adisham Road Bekesbourne Kent CT4 5HA **Details:** Retrospective application for a single-storey rear outbuilding.

Application No: CA/25/00012

Proposal: Single-storey front extension together with decking to rear following the

demolition of front and rear porches.

Location: Clarence Bungalow, Aerodrome Road, Bekesbourne, Kent, CT4 5EX

Agenda Item 13: Allotments

13.1 Any Updates

None

Agenda Item 14: Aspinall Close- Garages

We have received a response from Southern Housing:

Thanks for getting in touch. I've passed this to the relevant teams who have confirmed these garages are not owned by Southern Housing and are owned by Canterbury City Council.

I have made contact with Cllr Castle to enquire further.

Agenda Item 16: Staff Matters (Confidential to be held under the Public Bodies (admission to meetings) Act 1960)