

WHITFIELD Archives, DOVER

Birchington items

MARGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL MATERIAL

RD / Th / Ad 1 A large bundle of mixed material July 1932

In this bundle is a plan of Birchington **churchyard** dated July 1932, showing its various extensions.
The church itself is shown in dark grey.
The section round the church is in light grey.
The oblong to the north of this is blue.
Church House is shown in grey. This building was put up in 1926, so was only 6 years old by this date.
The piece on the far left is pink.
This last piece was later sold for building land in Kent Gardens.

The bundle contains **scrapbook** with cuttings dating from 1930 – with a number of accounts of the Birchington Parish Council meetings. They were arguing amongst themselves as to the best way to stop Margate Borough council annexing them into their new Urban District Council. Several wanted to take proper advice from lawyers, but couldn't agree about who was to pay. In the end, it appears that they did nothing – and then found we had been taken over anyway!

There are 17 **cuttings** covering 1930-32 on the subject – all saying more or less the same thing, ie. Objecting to being swallowed up in Margate and not really believing them when they said they would not try to change Birchington's identity!! (In the account in the cutting it then states 'Laughter' – perhaps it should have preceded the word with 'Hollow'!)

Another **pamphlet** was published by **Margate Borough 21st May 1932** defending its position in trying to widen its borders to included Westgate and Birchington.

A collection of thoughts written concerning the incorporation into Margate – **Capt. Butterworth**. He included three photos of Botany Road. Butterworth was he District Surveyor for Birchington and was also the leader of the Birchington Fire Brigade.

When the proposals were being put forward, a **survey** was done on the **acreage of each section**.

Garlinge	1370 acres
Westgate	715 acres
Birchington	2055 acres
Minster - part	2.7 acres (part of site for proposed new reservoir at Flete)
Acol – part	16 acre