

WHITFIELD ARCHIVES

RD / Th / H 37 SURVEYOR'S REPORT BOOK

p 74 23 November 1922

SAND from the FORESHORE

Reported that a local carter was removing sand from the foreshore illegally. Butterworth went to Petman's yard in Albion Rd and saw a man named Stringer who had just tipped a load of sand from Epple Bay into the yard. He admitted where he'd got it from and after being told that it was illegal, he took it back to Epple Bay.

STONE DEPOT at CLEVE

Butterworth visited Mr Sayer at Cleve and asked to rent a piece of land to store the stone, so that they weren't dumped on the grass verge opposite Cleve Court Farm. He agreed to let him have a piece at the corner of his field near the trees on the south side of Cleve Court at a rent of 5/- a year.

ROADWAY at Cleve corner

Surveyor advised that the corner needed to be improved and suggested that they ask Lord Carson if the iron fence outside the farmhouse could be moved back nearer to the house, and the Council would then be able to create a better line of vision for travellers on that very sharp bend. Lord Carson was reported to be returning to the /court on Dec. 22nd

ROAD MEN

There had been 22 men working on the roads in 1912

By 1913 it had dropped to 16, but by 1922 it was back to 22.

Of these were listed 3 old age pensioners, a youth, the Foden wagon driver and his mate and a Hooker who was engaged principally in the removal of house refuse at Westgate.

PARK ROAD – road widening

Suggested widening on the west side, which would mean that Major Powell-Cotton would need to release some land. The Surveyor estimated the work would cost £1,364, which was an excessive amount for such a small lane. It was decided that the footpath only should be created at this stage and wait until the houses were built along that side of the road before undertaking the rest of the improvements. That part of the work would only cost £126.

SURVEYOR'S ASSISTANT

Butterworth followed the advice of the Council and had appointed Mr Cecil Bowling of Birchington as his assistant for one month on a salary of 25/- a week.

PLANS

Plans passed for a pair of villas in Epple Bay Rd, Birchington for Messrs. Bushell and R. Pettman.

p79 **28th December 1922**

SEA WALLS at Minnis Bay

Met up with representatives of the Parish Council at the Bay and inspected the sea walls, which are, together with certain pieces of land being offered to the Council by the Estate Co. (Developers of the area)

SCARLET FEVER

A case of Scarlet Fever was reported at No 1 Gordon Square – a 4½ year old child taken to hospital and the premises fumigated.

PLANS

Long list but only two that might be traceable -
Mr C. S. Strange – bungalow in Herschell Rd
Mrs Dawson Scott – bungalow in Epple Rd

p 82 **25th January 1923**

CLEVE IMPROVEMENTS

Lord Carson has expressed approval of the almost completed work at the corner of Cleve Court Farm. Telegraph pole still to be moved and two notices about the danger of the corner to be erected, once permission was obtained from the County Surveyor.

SURVEYOR'S OFFICE in Birchington

Asked for the premises to be papered and distempered – hadn't been touched since taken over 9 years ago. Also asked for a small roof to be erected over the front door, "as the door has to be left open and the rain drives into the vestibule."

PARK ROAD CORNER

Trustees of Spurgeon's Homes (who had only recently acquired Birchington Hall and Homestead Farm) agreed to have the wall at the corner of Park Road brought back, so that the entrance into the road could be made safer.

p 89 **23rd February 1923**

PLANS

Cottage in Queen's Avenue - for Miss Hine
House in Green Road – for Mrs Pimmock
Bungalow in Green Road – for Mrs Shelley
Bungalow in Hengist Road – for Mr Harbrow – wanted to use timber framing and asbestos coverings. Surveyor not happy about this.

p 90 **22nd March 1923**

BERESFORD HOTEL

Plans for additions to the Beresford Hotel were presented on behalf of Mr Remnant

p 95 **26th April 1923**

FORESHORE by BAY HOTEL

Birchington Improvement Co. asked for permission to build a sea wall of about 9 feet and use materials from the foreshore. Since the council were sure that the building of the wall would benefit the public they were advised to agree to the foreshore materials being use, but the quantity taken was to be monitored.

PLANS

The Nursery in Epple Road – improvements to buildings for Mr Sandle

PLANS (cont.)

Cottage in Hereward Ave – for Mrs Quown

Seven houses in Quex View Road – for Mr Archer (for Quex Estates)

Cottage in Queen's Ave – for Mr W. Hatch

Bungalow in Grenham Rd – for Miss Graham

Bungalow in King's Rd – for Mr R. Cole

p 107 **28th June 1923**

STEPS at slipway – Minnis Bay

New step at the eastern side of the slipway at Minnis Bay – three tenders submitted.

PLANS

Bungalow in Reculver Ave – for Mr Randall Harris

House in Hereward Ave – for Mr C. Ward

Bungalow in Wilkie Rd – for Mr F. C. Keen

Additions to the "Basketts" in Spencer Rd – for Co. Reece. These plans are in order, subject to the drain under the building being encased in concrete.

p 109 **26th July 1923**

STEPS at SLIPWAY at Minnis Bay

These steps have now been completed – a god job

CHURCH STREET (Canterbury Rd from the Square to Park Avenue)

Improvement to the road opposite Wilson's shop, Birchington – Suggested the road need widening, but County Surveyor didn't agree. (R. E. Wilson was an undertaker with a business in 'Anvil Villa', now 235 Canterbury Rd.)

PLANS

Brunswick Rd	- new bungalow for Mr G. Whitwham
	- additions to bungalow from Miss Trill
Sea View Ave	- Bungalow for Mr C. V. Wood
	- Bungalow for Mrs Muddimer
Station Rd	- Proposed store for Mr A. S. Reed
King Edward Rd	- Bungalow for Mr G. Smith

23rd August 1923CENSUS of vehicles on 5 local roads.

PARK LANE, 2,130 motor vehicles
 Birchington 495 horsed vehicles
 2,235 cycles
 76 horses

MONKTON Rd 4,761 motor vehicles
 (1,127 motor omnibuses, 1,411 motor cars, 4,23 motor lorries)
 1,247 horse vehicles
 2,137 cycles
 1,737 horses, sheep, handcarts etc.

CENSUS (cont.)

Other roads counted were, Plucks Gutter Rd, Ebbsfleet Rd and Hengrove Rd (which had the least amount of traffic.)

During a census of traffic on the Monkton Road in 1914 (just 9 years earlier), there were 261 cars, 2 motor omnibuses, and 5 motor lorries. During that week the total in 1914 for motor traffic was 2,885 as against 10,482 in 1923.

At this date, many of the roads in the village were still not tarred and a water-cart was used in the summer months during dry periods to dampen down the dust. The surveyor put in a request for the overhauling and re-paving of the water-cart "as soon as possible" so that his service would not be interrupted.

PLANS

Shops in Station Road – for Mr J. F. Sharp
 Bungalow in Ethelbert Rd – for Mrs F. Moore

p 118 5th October 1923SHERIFF'S COURT FARM

Mr Fuller of Sheriff's Court Farm complained about the number of motor vehicles which took the road leading to his farm, thinking it would lead them across the marshes into Eastry District. However, his track is a dead-end road and the drivers then had a great difficulty in turning round and returning to the main Monkton Road. He asked the council if they could please put signs at the top of the road indicating that the road terminated at Sheriff's Court!

PLANS

Bungalow in Cross Rd – for Mr J. Harmer
 Bungalow in King Edward Road – for Mr L. Goldsworthy
 Villa in Reculver Ave – for Mr E. White
 House in Queen's Ave – for Mr E. Coles

p 123 22nd November 1923FOOTPATH DIVERSION

Permission was sought from two magistrates to divert the footpath from Paddock Road to Prospect Rd, when the new roads were eventually laid out. Butterworth felt

that they would grant it once they realised that access was still available, albeit not quite as direct as it had previously been. It would be tarred and much better for pedestrians than the present muddy path.

p. 136 28th February 1924

GARDENS AT MINNIS BAY

Another hole appeared in the gardens immediately over one of the caves in the cliffs. Hurdles were fixed around it to prevent the public from injury.

ROAD IMPROVEMENTS AT ACOL

Butterworth asked Mr Dilnot if he would give u a small piece of land to improve the view round the bend near the Chapel (Methodist) as the road had two bends and a high bank at this point. Considering the rise in traffic levels at this point (1914 = 465 / 1923 = 2,130) and the fact that this was now a constant omnibus route, something needed to be done. Mr Dilnot said he would sell the 194 feet at two guineas per each 9 feet.

PLANS

St Mary's Convalescent Home – Additions to the premises

Proposed Blacksmith's Shop in Gas Alley (opposite All Saints Church) – for Mr Kennett. Wanted to build two outside brick walls with a corrugated iron roof covering across them. It would be 15 feet from the boundary of the adjoining property and 5 feet from the nearest street. The other two sides of the building were formed by the two existing brick walls

p. 141 27th March 1924

ROAD IMPROVEMENTS in Birchington

Widening of the Canterbury Road outside Wilson's Shop (Carpenter's) opposite the church. Wilson asked such an exorbitant price for the land they required that the authorities were not prepared to sanction it – and would think again! They were also trying to find a way of widening the road beside South End Cottages.

FOOTPATH

Suggested footpath in Minnis Road from "Grenham Cottage" to the Malt Houses entrance.

STATION GATES DEVELOPMENT

Mr Sandle had submitted his proposal for what he wanted to do with his land beside Cousins old Cycle Factory. The plans included a 24 foot road leading straight from the Station Gates through to Minnis Road. (We have the drawing of his proposals which included a large bank with offices above.)

PLANS

Request for the building of the Pavilion at the Memorial Park for the Cricket Club.