

MINUTES
BEAN PARISH COUNCIL
Monday 14th March 2022 at 7.00 pm
at
Bean Village Hall

Present: Cllr. C. Bates, Cllr. K Burgin (Chair), Cllr. K Clarke,
 Cllr. D Hammock (arrived 8.40pm), Cllr. A Munday, Cllr. S Weeks

Jacky Haseman - Community Warden (left at 7.45pm)

One member of the public

Apologies: Cllr D Wood (dispensation)

Members noted that following a resolution passed at the October 2010 Meeting, Item 7, and in accordance with Standing Orders 12a the Minutes of the previous meeting would be taken as read.

	Agenda Item	
1	<u>Apologies for absence</u> 1.1 Cllr. D Wood – dispensation until April 2022 meeting. 1.2 Cllr Hammock tendered his apologies advising that he would be late attending the Parish Council meeting due to his attendance being required at an earlier meeting at Dartford Borough Council.	
2	<u>Declarations of interest</u> 2.1 There were no updates to the Register of Interests 2.2 There were no declarations of interest against any agenda item.	
3.	<u>Minutes</u> 3.1 To APPROVE the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 14 th February 2022 that they be received as a true and complete record and that the resolutions contained therein be deemed to be the resolutions of the Council. RESOLVED: <i>That the Minutes of the Parish Council held on 14th February 2022 be approved and adopted as a true record</i>	
4	<u>Matters Arising</u> There were no matters arising which were not covered elsewhere on the agenda.	
5	<u>Announcements from the Chair</u> The Chair advised that he had been approached by local residents seeking his support in requesting Residents' Only Parking in front of the cottages between the Village Hall and the Public House. The Chair had pointed out that there were insufficient spaces to accommodate one vehicle per household and was therefore	

	unable to support any application. The Clerk advised that she had spoken to the Parking Manager who had confirmed that in his opinion there was only sufficient room for 3.5 spaces which would not accommodate the 5 residences and, following discussions with Kent Highways, would formally respond to the residents' request.	
6	<p><u>Community Rural Warden</u></p> <p>6.1 The CW advised the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - She had given a road safety talk at the pre-school. - She would be participating in the litter picking event organised by the Residents' Association on 16 March at 10am - She had emailed the Primary School offering to visit. - Unfortunately, the leaflet that had been produced for distribution to local residents cannot be used as it carries an outdated logo. <p>6.2 The KCW newsletter was noted.</p>	
7	<p><u>Correspondence</u></p> <p>The following items of correspondence were noted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Rural Bulletin 15, 22 February, 1, 8 March - Our News, Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter March 2022 - RSN Rural Funding Digest - March 2022 Edition 	
8	<p><u>KALC/SLCC/NALC</u></p> <p>8.1 KALC Newsletter for February 2022 was noted.</p>	
9.	<p><u>Parish Forum</u></p> <p>The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 5th April at 7pm at DBC and will be attended by the Chair and Clerk.</p>	
10	<p><u>GDPR</u></p> <p>There are no matters to consider</p>	
11	<p><u>Ebbfleet Development Corporation /Bean Triangle/ London Resort</u></p> <p>There are no matters to consider</p>	
12	<p><u>Consultations</u></p> <p>12.1 Dartford Borough Council is considering introducing a Borough-wide Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) to help tackle nuisance vehicles. A copy of the proposed PSPO, together with the survey and supporting information can be found on the Dartford Borough Council Website, or by following the link https://www.dartford.gov.uk/community-safety/public-space-protection-order</p> <p>Members were encouraged to complete the survey.</p> <p>12.2 Proposed withdrawal of the 474/475 bus route https://letstalk.kent.gov.uk/bus-funding-reductions?utm_medium=email&utm_medium=email&utm_source=ehq_newsletter&utm_source=ehq&utm_campaign=ehq-Have-your-say-on-our-bus-funding-reduction-consultation&utm_campaign=website KCC are proposing to make savings by reducing the money they spend on</p>	

	<p>providing some bus services that private bus companies cannot afford to run, and which are no longer cost effective. They are carrying out this consultation to listen to public feedback.</p> <p>The consultation closes on 20 April 2022</p> <p>474/5 Go Coach Bluewater to Longfield</p> <p>Withdrawal of the whole service which runs Monday to Saturday, operating a circular service between Bluewater and Longfield via Bean, Betsham, Southfleet and New Barn. Saving £114,847</p> <p>Members discuss the questionnaire which was then completed with the Council's responses and submitted to KCC.</p> <p>7.45 pm The Community Warden left the meeting</p> <p>12.3 Boundary Commission for England will launch a public consultation on the proposed new map of parliamentary constituencies.</p> <p>They have produced a new partner pack to provide information about the 2023 Boundary Review which can be downloaded from their website https://boundarycommissionforengland.independent.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/2022-02-15-Partner-pack_Secondary-consultation_Boundary-Commission-for-England.pdf?utm_source=partnerpack&utm_medium=stakeholderemail&utm_campaign=secondaryconsultation</p> <p>The secondary consultation will take place between 22 February to 4 April, and they are inviting members of the public to view and comment on their proposals on their consultation website, bcereviews.org.uk, or send a letter or email. The Commission has also published the responses received from the first consultation on this website.</p> <p>RESOLVED: <i>That Bean Parish Council had no comments to make on the consultation regarding the proposed new map of parliamentary constituencies.</i></p>	
13	<p><u>Kent Police</u></p> <p>13.1 Monthly updates for January and February 2022 were noted</p>	
14	<p><u>Planning</u></p> <p>The following were noted</p> <p>14.1 Weekly planning lists from DBC including Planning Decisions taken under delegated powers for the period 3 Feb – 2 March 2022</p> <p>14.2 Weekly planning lists from EDC</p> <p>14.3 There were no applications to consider.</p>	
15	<p><u>Highways</u></p> <p>15.1 20mph speed limit in Bean Consultation will start on 11th March with notices posted on 9th March.</p> <p>15.2 Southfleet Road pedestrian crossing for access to Beacon Woods Unfortunately, the bid to KCC to provide a crossing and associated works was unsuccessful. However, on 24th February Cllr. Munday met with</p>	

	<p>representatives from National Highways, Atkins and Bean Primary School to discuss the following:-</p> <p><u>Designated Funds Beacon Park Crossing Feasibility Study</u></p> <p>National Highways advised that they had secured funding for a crossing and a number of options were discussed and the comments by both the School and Bean Parish Council were taken into account. Following the completion of the feasibility study National Highways will have to evaluate the value for money associated with the different options and the stakeholder views and will make the ultimate decision as to which option could be justified to be taken forward when compared with other applications made by other schemes outside the Bean area.</p> <p>15.3 Sandy Lane – water leak</p> <p>It was noted that there is an extensive water leak in Sandy Lane which reaches Park Corner Road in Betsham which has been reported to Thames Water.</p> <p>15.4 Sandy Lane – overhanging tree</p> <p>It was noted that near to the entrance of Claywood Lane there is a tree which has been dislodged and is now overhanging the road. KCC Highways have been informed.</p>	
16	<p><u>Environmental Issues</u></p> <p>No matters to consider at time of publication.</p>	
17	<p><u>Footpaths</u></p> <p>17.1 DR25</p> <p>Following reports of motor bikes and quad bikes accessing the footpath from Betsham the PROW Officer has agreed to install kissing gates at the entrance to DR25 from behind Broomhills (Betsham).</p>	
18	<p><u>Beacon Woods</u></p> <p>18.1 HE Landscaping project in Beacon Woods</p> <p>The original oak bollards surrounding the first car-park have been removed and replaced with smaller soft-wood bollards. FoBW have raised concerns that they now constitute a tripping hazard and this has been raised with Balfour Beatty/National Highways.</p> <p>18.2 Damage to external fencing caused by vehicle</p> <p>On 29th November a vehicle left the road, crossed the verging and damaged a section of the external fencing. The insurance claim was settled in full on 18th February 2022 and the repairs to the fencing have been completed.</p> <p>18.3 Refurbishment of hardstanding pathways</p> <p>On 27th January the Clerk met with a representative of Tilhill to discuss the refurbishment of 2 of the main hardstanding pathways – 1) The main path which passes the memorial benches to NP-C and stretches from the junction with the blue route to Shellbank. 2) The pathway from the bottom of the steps near the pedestrian entrance opposite the shop to the</p>	

	<p>junction by the memorial bench to AJS. The other paths were also walked and quotations requested.</p> <p>Quotations have been received as follows, excl.VAT: Full re-instatement of the paths as indicated on the quotation £123,951.09 Pathways to be topped up with a new surface only. £96,107.79</p> <p>RESOLVED: <i>That funding streams for the footpath improvement project be sought.</i></p> <p>18.4 Damage caused by falling trees during storm weather.</p> <p>18.4.1 Two large fallen stems hung over Southfleet Road were removed 3rd March as they were a danger to traffic. Cost £240 (incl VAT) has been paid by FoBW.</p> <p>18.4.2 Large Multi stem Ash fallen from within the woods landing in a resident's garden. Quotation received to cut up and deposit the arisings over the fence back into the woods. Leave timber against the fence, cut as manageable large sizes. £800 + VAT. Matter passed to our insurance company.</p>	
19	<p><u>Recreation Facilities</u></p> <p>19.1 Fencing Contractor has confirmed all snagging work has been carried out and 15m of wet poured concrete has been installed to fill the void between the v mesh fencing and the revised play ground level. The gap where the toddler fencing meets the v mesh fencing will be filled with wood.</p> <p>19.2 Pedestrian Gate The anti-climb roller for the top of the pedestrian gate has been ordered.</p> <p>19.3 Body Camera After consideration the park caretaker has decided against using a body camera which will be returned to the supplier.</p> <p>8.40pm Cllr Hammock joined the meeting.</p>	
20	<p><u>Bean Village Hall</u></p> <p>20.1 Kent Funding for COVID19 Has been received. Sneeze guards and belt barrier system to be purchased.</p> <p>20.2 Re-surfacing of hall car-park Refer item 15.2 of February Minutes. No response received from NH/BB</p> <p>20.3 Future Meeting of the Village Hall Sub-Committee Meetings will take place at 2pm in the Village Hall on the 1st Monday of alternate months. 4th April 6th June – request to change this meeting to be discussed at the April meeting 5th September 7th November January 2023 meeting to be held on Wednesday 4th</p>	

21	<p><u>Allotment Association</u> No matters to consider.</p>	
22	<p><u>Residents' Association</u> 22.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 7 February 2022 were noted 22.2 There was no report on the meeting held on 7th March 2022 22.3 Bean RA enquired if voluntary litter pickers required insurance cover. Cllr Hammock advised that he had spoken to leaders of other litter picking groups in Dartford, none of whom operated with insurance cover but that the Residents' Association should be able to obtain cover as an Association should they wish.</p>	
23	<p><u>Community Bus</u> Has an up-to-date MOT and has been taxed and insured and arrangements for KCC to inspect the bus are in hand.</p> <p>Members discussed the impact that the possible removal of the 474/475 bus service would have on the local community and agreed that it was important to ensure that, should the bus route be withdrawn, the Community Bus could assist in meeting local residents' needs</p> <p><i>RESOLVED:</i> <i>That the Council advertise on the Council website and Facebook for volunteer drivers.</i></p>	
24	<p><u>Spirit's Rest</u> Cllr Bates reported the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 roofs had been lost in the high winds and sheds had been flooded. - 2 new chicken coops have been ordered. - Balfour Beatty have kindly agreed to carry out the groundwork for the memorial ground. - Dartford Grammar School for Boys visited the sanctuary and produced a report on their visit and gave a donation. - The sanctuary is working with other charities to supply bedding and food for animal charities working in the Ukraine. - Oak Farm, Halstead. After months of complaints Trading Standards have finally removed the animals from this farm. - Representatives from the sanctuary have been assisting with horse rescues. - The ponies and donkeys have been booked to take part in Easter and Jubilee events. 	
25	<p><u>Finance</u> 25.1 Bank and Scribe reports up to 28 February 2022 The following were noted</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Co-op Bank transactions on all accounts 1 – 28 February 2022 - Bank reconciliation on all accounts - Monthly breakdown of receipts and payments - Net position by cost centre and code - Receipts and payments forecast - Summary of receipts and payments all cost centres and codes - Cost centre year comparisons 	

25.2 Balance as at 28 February 2022 on all accountsBean Parish Council

Reserve Account	10483.55
Current Account (No. 1 account)	7188.57
Petty Cash	63.49
TOTAL	17735.61

The current account includes the following receipts:

- 1) £6,000 capacity building fund which will be forwarded to SAH&H for management of the fund.
- 2) £948 received from driver's insurance company for damage to fencing at Beacon Woods caused by a RTA in November 2021

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Current Account (No. 2 account)	19032.23
Petty Cash	178.42
TOTAL	19,210.65

25.3 Insurance

It was noted that the Council have been asked to provide additional information regarding the 'bodies of water' in Beacon Woods, noting that they are 'seasonal' ponds which dry up during the summer months.

26**Items of interest****26.1 Chair's Items**

No items to consider.

26.2 Borough Councillor's Items

London Resort have until 15 March to submit their plans. It is possible that they may request a further extension which PINS may decide to refuse.

26.3 Members' Items

No matters to consider

26.4 Clerk's Items

Members considered the request from the Clerk to convene a meeting of the HR Committee (Vice-Chair + 2 Councillors) to review her Contract and Job Description.

RESOLVED:

That the HR Committee, comprising Cllrs. Hammock, Munday (Chair) and Weeks, meet at 3pm on 4th April 2022 at Bean Village Hall to review the Clerk's Contract and Job Description.

26.5 Annual Parish Meeting

Will take place on 11th April 2022 at 7pm preceding the April Meeting of the Parish Council at 7.15pm

27	<p><u>Questions from the public</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Parking in Beacon Drive near to the junctions with Foxwood Road is obscuring the vision of motorists attempting to exit from Foxwood Road. Would it be possible to install yellow lines on the corners of this junction? Cllr. Hammock advised he would raise the matter with DBC Parking Manager. 2) Outside numbers 3 and 5 Foxwood Road, Thames Water dug up the footpath to access the meters but did not re-level the pathway when they had finished leaving a depression between the dropped kerb and the residents' driveway, can this be repaired? The Clerk will raise the matter with Kent Highways. 	
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There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 9.15pm

Chair..... Date