

BEAN PARISH COUNCIL

The COVID-19 Coronavirus pandemic and the unprecedented Government measures in response to the crisis (e.g. prohibitions on gatherings, social distancing, self-isolation and shielding of those deemed to be the most vulnerable) have meant that the requirement for local authorities to hold public meetings in person with all members present in one place cannot currently be met. The statutory requirements for meetings are mainly contained in the Local Government Act 1972 (“the 1972 Act”) and the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 (“the 1960 Act”). In recognition of the difficulties of holding and attending meetings, the Government included s.78 in the Coronavirus Act 2020 and provided the Secretary of State with the power to make Regulations for the provision of holding alternative format meetings.

As such, this meeting will be held under terms agreed by Members being to conduct the Council business via internet link.

Additionally, the legislation allowed for the cancellation of the Annual Parish Council meeting and all current appointments continue until May 2021.

MINUTES
BEAN PARISH COUNCIL
Monday 8th March 2021 at 8.00 pm
via MS Teams
Members of the public were asked to contact the Clerk should
they wish to join the meeting

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 will be taken as read.

Present: Cllr Keith Burgin (Chair), Cllr Dave Hammock, Cllr Anna Munday (Vice-Chair),
 Cllr SA Weeks

The meeting was quorate.

The meeting was preceded at 7pm by a presentation and question time from the EDC Health and Wellbeing Hub Project Manager

	Agenda Item	
1	<p><u>Apologies for absence</u></p> <p>Were received and accepted from Cllr Bates (technical difficulties in accessing the meeting) and Cllr. Impiazzi (ill-health).</p> <p>No apologies had been received from Cllr. Wood.</p>	
2	<p><u>Declarations of interest</u></p> <p>2.1 There were no updates to the Register of Interests</p> <p>2.2 Cllr Hammock declared an interest in Item 14.4 of the agenda. As Ward Borough Councillor, Cllr Hammock had supported the initial application for its current use.</p>	

3.	<p><u>Minutes</u></p> <p>3.1 Minutes of the Council Meeting held via MS Teams on Monday 8th February 2021 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.</p> <p><i>RESOLVED:</i> <i>That the Minutes of the Parish Council held on 8th February 2021 be approved and adopted as a true record</i></p>	
4	<p><u>Matters Arising</u></p> <p>4.1 Planning Seminar. The date has been changed to 17th March 2021. Cllr. Munday will be attending.</p>	
5	<p><u>Announcements/urgent items from the Chair</u></p> <p>5.1 Annual Parish Meeting Councillors discussed the practicalities of holding the APM in April via Teams and whether there would be any reports to receive given that the Village Hall had been closed to all users with the exception of the Pre-School and for a few weeks in the summer, dance lessons, since March 2020 and that the Residents Association had also not met since March 2020.</p> <p><i>RESOLVED:</i> <i>That as the Annual Parish Meeting is not a Council Meeting and that as neither the Chair of the Council nor two councillors wish to call a meeting unless six electors call for a meeting the Annual Parish Meeting 2021 will not take place.</i></p> <p>5.2 Hope Cottages Councillors were in receipt of the report of the meeting between a resident of Hope Cottages and the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Parish Council which took place on 14th February 2021 and noted that the following actions had been taken.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Balfour Beatty had confirmed that they would instruct their workforce and sub-contractors not to park in the parking bays opposite Hope Cottages. 2) Balfour Beatty arranged a litter pick in the area opposite Hope Cottages. 3) Cllr. Hammock, as Borough Councillor for the ward, has arranged for an additional litter bin to be installed. 4) DBC CSU have been advised about anti-social behaviour in the area and the resident has been advised to report any further behaviour to the police and in the event of witnessing criminal activity to dial 999. 5) DBC Parking Services Manager has confirmed that his team will visit the area within their schedule and will ticket vehicles parked on the double yellow lines <p>Following discussions on the report and the matters raised Councillors were unanimous in their support of the following resolution.</p>	

	<p>RESOLVED: That</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) <i>Bean Parish Council will not support an application for ‘Residents Only’ parking scheme at Hope Cottages as the application would not meet the agreed criteria for such a scheme.</i> 2) <i>Although noting the suggestion that the Parish Council might consider contributing towards the cost of installing additional wooden bollards between Bean House and Hope Cottages to prevent parking on the verging the Parish Council is currently committed to installing additional bollards on Bean Hill, High Street and does not have sufficient funds to finance both projects.</i> 3) <i>Bean Parish Council will supply details of ‘stopping up orders’ to the resident should he wish to pursue making the road outside Hope Cottages a private road.</i> 	
6	<p><u>Community Rural Warden</u> No matters to consider.</p>	
7	<p><u>Correspondence</u> The following correspondence was noted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Clerk and Cllr Munday will be attending a free webinar at 10.30am on Wednesday 24th March to help Town & Parish Council’s source external grants and funding. The webinar is being organised by IDOX - experts in funding solutions, who will take us through how they can help us to identify more funding streams and talk through the recent success where a council secured over £53m for their community. - Inside Track 9 February 2021 - Rural Services Bulletin 16 & 23 February 2021 - Rural Services Bulletin March 2021 	
8	<p><u>KALC/SLCC/NALC</u> All information received from the above relating to COVID-19 and other urgent matters have been forwarded to Councillors on receipt.</p> <p>8.1 Members noted the following email from KALC sent to Kent MPs at the beginning of February seeking their support for extending the Covid-19 regulations to enable remote meetings to continue beyond 7 May. NALC and the SLCC are lobbying at national level. KALC have also asked MPs for their help in getting the Secretary of State to respond to their call for a financial support package for our sector.</p> <p><i>The Covid 19 Regulations that came into effect in April 2020 gave local councils the power to hold meetings remotely, the Regulations expire on 7th May by which time it may be unlikely that councillors, staff and members of the public will be prepared to meet face to face. The purpose of this email is to seek your support to ask the Government for an extension to the Regulations until the end of the calendar year to avoid any confusion as we get closer to May. Recent evidence suggests an increase in attendance online from many local councillors, including those on local councils in remote rural areas. There are also practical reasons why meetings should continue to be held remotely, including: many Parish Councillors and residents are still isolating; the rooms available to Parish Councils for meetings are too small to permit social distancing if all councillors are present, which would mean it would not be possible to admit the public;</i></p>	

	<p><i>many Parish Councils do not have the technology to permit some councillors and members of the public to attend in person and also virtually; a return to physical meetings would restrict voting to those physically present and some councillors would be disenfranchised.</i></p> <p>8.2 Co-option to Council The procedure for co-options to Council was APPROVED</p> <p>8.3 KALC CEO's Bulletin No. 16 February 2021 was NOTED</p> <p>8.4 NALC CEO Bulletin March 2021 was NOTED</p>	
9.	<p><u>Parish Forum</u> Census 2021 Cllr Munday and the Clerk attended the presentation from the Census Engagement Manager, North West Kent which had been rescheduled for 5pm on Tuesday 23rd February via zoom. Publicity material will be forwarded to the Council for inclusion on Parish websites, notice boards and social media pages.</p>	
10	<p><u>GDPR</u> No matters to consider at date of publication.</p>	
11	<p><u>Ebbsfleet Development Corporation /Bean Triangle/ London Resort</u> 11.1 London Resort Community Liaison Group on 9th March 2021 The Clerk and Chair will be attending this meeting.</p> <p>11.2 London Resort Section 56 notice The period during which you can submit a Relevant Representation to the Inspectorate begins on 19 February 2021, being the calendar day after the date the Section 56 Notice is first published, and will end on 31 March 2021.</p> <p>The Registration and Relevant Representation form will be made available by the Inspectorate once the registration/representation period has opened on the relevant page for the Application via the National Infrastructure Planning website: https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/south-east/the-london-resort/?ipcsection=docs:</p> <p>If you are unable to complete a registration form online and would like to register your interest, please call the Inspectorate's helpline on: 0303 444 5000, quoting the name of the Application and the Inspectorate's reference number BC080001.</p>	
12	<p><u>Consultations</u> No matters to consider at date of publication</p>	
13	<p><u>Kent Police</u> The following were NOTED 13.1 Kent Police and Crime Commissioner newsletter 13.2 Crag Report up to 28 Feb 2021</p>	

	<p>13.3 Rural Matters Winter 2021</p> <p>13.4 Police newsletter for Bean and Village Park, February 2021</p>	
14	<p><u>Planning</u></p> <p>The following were NOTED</p> <p>14.1 Weekly planning lists from DBC</p> <p>14.2 Weekly planning lists from EDC</p> <p>14.3 21/00170/FUL 19 Page Close Bean, DA2 8BX Erection of single storey rear extension</p> <p>Councillors discussed the above application and had no objections.</p> <p>14.4 EDC/20/0131 - Old Service Station, Watling Street, Bean, Kent DA2 8AH - Watling Street Service Station & Car-wash Further to the query raised at the February meeting the following response has been received.</p> <p><i>In respect of your query, the land to the north the Planning Statement Addendum is referring to is the grass verge in front of the site. If this land was within the applicant's control, they would be able to propose an improvement for example a hedge or other structured planting to screen the operations. However as this is currently public highway and not within their land ownership it isn't possible to seek those works as part of this proposal. Their reference to transfer of ownership is looking at the longer-term potential to develop and improve appearance of the site as part of a future permanent permission, with this temporary proposal being a meantime use.</i></p> <p>14.5 KCC/DA/0028/2021 Off Watling Street, Eastern Quarry, Swanscombe, Dartford, Kent</p> <p>Temporary consent (5 years) for the operation of a construction and recycling facility for concrete and road/base planings and ancillary plant storage areas, reception weighbridge office and parking</p> <p>https://www.kentplanningapplications.co.uk/Planning/Display/KCC/DA/0028/2021?cuuid=9F79F</p> <p>Councillors discussed the above application and had no objections.</p> <p>14.6 Dartford Pre-submission 2021 Local Plan - Bean Housing Sites It was NOTED that eight sites were either submitted for development in DBC 'Call for Sites' or identified by DBC.</p> <p>The 2020/21 Assessment Results (including 3 large sites) show: - 3 UNSUITABLE (Beacon Dr/Drudgeon Way - 6 houses approved 2018, adj Ightham Cott & SE School Lane) 4 DISQUALIFIED (Bean Triangle, N of Shellbank House, Black Horse</p>	

	<p>Cottage & behind 11-47 Bramble Ave) 1 UNAVAILABLE (Block of 38 garages behind 1-9 Bramble Ave It should be noted that the suitability of any of the sites may be challenged and examined at the Planning Hearing.</p>	
15	<p><u>Highways</u> 15.1 Late night heavy vehicle traffic through Bean Following consultation with KCC Highways, Highways England and Balfour Beatty additional signage has been sited at Bean junction to discourage HGVs and other vehicles from using Bean Lane/High Street as a diversion route. Residents have been asked to contact the Parish Council should HGVs continue to pass through the village.</p>	
16	<p><u>Environmental Issue</u> 16.1 With reference to the February meeting the following responses have been received from DBC regarding this Council's Questions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Have you seen an increase in fly-tipping since charges were imposed at Waste & Recycling Centres? <i>No – the charges have been in place for some time now and have made no noticeable difference to the number of incidents of dumping.</i> 2. Has there been an increase in fly-tipping since COVID? <i>Yes – numbers certainly increased to start off with, but have now gone back down.</i> 3. What actions can be taken to reduce and catch the fly-tippers who use Sandy Lane? Bean PC would like to support Southfleet PC in any way we can (eg share of costs if necessary) to address the increased dumping along this road. Would it be possible to look at the temporary installation of cameras at certain points along the road or alternatively could a conviction be secured if cameras were stationed at each end of the road filming traffic entering and leaving especially visibly laden vehicles entering and then leaving empty? <p><i>Over the last six months on interrogation of our reports and from a review of our records there would appear to have been 1 fly tip reported in Sandy Lane in the last 6 months. Also, two in Foxhounds Lane and two in Park Corner Road (reported for investigation by DBC Environmental Enforcement). All have been recorded and varying levels of investigation taken place.</i></p> <p><i>Surveillance Cameras: It would be no good trying to cover a whole road, unless it's located near to a hot spot area' and given the current information available this not appear at present to be the case.</i></p> <p><i>With regard to the siting of a CCTV camera at the location, we will balance the need to site a temporary camera in the location with any certainty of capturing a perpetrator, against the collateral intrusion on residents going about their lawful business. At this time, we do not feel the siting of a temporary camera can be justified due to the likelihood of capturing an offence and the necessity for the level of collateral</i></p>	

	<p><i>intrusion, that could leave us open to criticism / action from the data / surveillance commissioners, that is not to say we will not record and investigate any reports of fly tipping at the location. Additionally, this is a lengthy road and used by many vehicles and persons and that negates other considerations around placement of cameras at each end of the road to catch vehicles entering or leaving as a no go.</i></p> <p><i>Circumstances can change regarding information/intelligence around specific dumping sites / locations within Sandy Lane, although at present we do not currently have that to enable any further considerations around a suitable camera placement site.</i></p> <p><i>As with any given situation, our considerations around camera placement will be constantly reviewed and where circumstances change, we will take the most appropriate action based around the National Decision-Making Model principles (NDM).</i></p> <p><i>I would at present also suggest that in the interim we could place some of our fly tip signage along and at each end of Sandy Lane, that carry the message “we are watching”. These have been placed around the borough and county and carry the DBC logo.</i></p> <p>RESOLVED: <i>That with respect to fly-tipping in Sandy Lane, which falls in the parishes of both Bean and Southfleet, and which causes great inconvenience to residents of Bean when the road is closed due to fly-tipping BPC would like to offer to share costs with Southfleet PC for the installation of a CCTV at an agreed location to deter and capture this activity.</i></p>	
17	<p><u>Footpaths</u> 17.1 Work on DR22 was completed 8th March 2021</p>	
18	<p><u>Beacon Woods</u> 18.1 Trees Inspection Report dated 6 February 2021 The above report was noted.</p> <p>RESOLVED: <i>That the quotation of £672.00 incl VAT to carry out the works as identified in the above report is APPROVED.</i></p> <p>Work will take place on Saturday 13th, 20th or 27th.</p> <p>RESOLVED: <i>That since the report was finalised a further tree has come down on the lower woodland track and that the making safe of this tree be included in the above scope of works.</i></p> <p>18.2 Negotiations on a new Lease between Tarmac and Bean Parish Council (refer attached report)</p>	

	<p>RESOLVED: <i>That Tarmac be requested to consider the inclusion of a 10-year review Clause and that all other terms remain as per the original lease.</i></p> <p>18.3 Firearms on Council owned land Further to the incident reported at the last Council meeting advice was sought from DBC Parks & Open Spaces Manager regarding appropriate signage and the following response received. <i>'There is a basic mention in the Dartford Heath byelaws about not injuring or killing any wildlife etc by shooting but nothing that specifically mentioning firearms, but there is no signage which enforces that.</i> <i>In general, it is against the law to carry a firearm in public, unless a valid licence is held but that licence itself would have conditions attached as to where and when the firearm could be used'.</i></p> <p>18.4 Report on excavations/clearance of section of land off lower woodland track (refer report)</p> <p>RESOLVED <i>That FoBW ensure that their volunteers are covered under their current insurance for this type of work and for lone working. If cover is not provided volunteers must sign a waiver that they will not hold FoBW or the Parish Council liable for any accident or injury they may incur and will not redress or seek compensation for losses. The Clerk is to consult with an expert on the industrial history of Dartford and to contact both Dartford Museum and Dartford Borough Council for their advice. Following their response, to engage with a surveyor in order that the current excavation site can be surveyed and a plan for any further work and securing of the site can be carried out. Tarmac to be advised accordingly.</i></p>	
19	<p><u>Recreation Facilities</u> 19.1 Awaiting the latest Inspection report to determine the remedial work to be carried out. 19.2 Order BPC/20/21/04 for 1250 mm long Secret Wood Crawl Through Play Tunnel has been placed for installation end March/beginning April 2021.</p>	
20	<p><u>Bean Village Hall</u> No matters to consider at date of publication</p>	
21	<p><u>Allotment Association</u> No matters to consider at date of publication</p>	
22	<p><u>Residents' Association</u> The updates from the Asst. Secretary were noted.</p>	
23	<p><u>Spirit's Rest</u> The sanctuary has been very busy with rescues on going issues which have now been passed to agencies for ongoing investigation We finally had the final fix for our electric all up and running CCTV installed and water is now also connected and we have had our first ever cup of tea here</p>	

	We would like to thank everyone who has raised money for our new signs and installed them, for all donations of rugs and to everyone who has donated food this week for the animals either by Amazon or in our black box at our gate.															
24	<p><u>Finance</u></p> <p>24.1 Bank and Scribe reports up to 28 February 2021 The following were noted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Co-op Bank transactions on all accounts 1February – 28 February 2021- 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 <p>24.2 Balance as at 28 February 2021 on all accounts <u>Bean Parish Council</u></p> <table><tr><td>Reserve Account</td><td>20866.01</td></tr><tr><td>Current Account (No. 1 account)</td><td>10388.30</td></tr><tr><td>Petty Cash</td><td>58.49</td></tr><tr><td>TOTAL</td><td>31,312.80</td></tr></table> <p><u>Bean Village Hall</u></p> <table><tr><td>Current Account (No. 2 account)</td><td>13055.68</td></tr><tr><td>Petty Cash</td><td>170.42</td></tr><tr><td>TOTAL</td><td>13,226.10</td></tr></table> <p>24.2 Parish Council Insurance 1 April 2021 – 31 March 2020 Members considered the quotations for insurance cover for the above period.</p> <p><i>RECOMMENDATION:</i> <i>That Bean Parish Council agrees to set up a 3-year binding Long Term Agreement (LTA) with Ecclesiastical, at an LTA premium of £1,603.19. This means Bean Parish Council will commit to keep their policy with Ecclesiastical for the period of the LTA.</i></p> <p>24.3 Renewal of memberships <i>RESOLVED;</i> <i>That Bean Parish Council renews their membership with the following;</i> <i>Action with Communities in Rural Kent (£75 in 2020)</i> <i>Campaign for the Protection of Rural England (£60 in 2020)</i> <i>Kent Association of Local Councils (£415 in 2020)</i></p>	Reserve Account	20866.01	Current Account (No. 1 account)	10388.30	Petty Cash	58.49	TOTAL	31,312.80	Current Account (No. 2 account)	13055.68	Petty Cash	170.42	TOTAL	13,226.10	
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25	<p><u>Items of interest</u> Chair’s Items – no items Borough Councillor’s Items – Cllr Hammock advised members that DBC will</p>															

	not be increasing council tax for 2021-2022. Members' Items – Cllr Weeks advised that some of the Remembrance Day Decorations had to be re-positioned to enable contractor access to the manhole covers.	
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There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 10pm

Chair..... **Date**.....