

**MINUTES**  
**BEAN PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022**  
**at 7pm**  
**at**  
**Bean Village Hall**

**Present:** Cllr. C Bates, Cllr. K Burgin (Chair), Cllr. D Hammock, Cllr. A Munday (Vice Chair), Cllr. S Weeks

Mrs J Becket (Clerk)

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	<p><b><u>Apologies for absence</u></b>  Were received and accepted from Cllr. Clarke.</p>
2	<p><b><u>Declarations of interest</u></b>  2.1 There were no updates to the Register of Interests  2.2 There were no declarations of interest against an agenda item.</p>
3.	<p><b><u>Minutes</u></b>  3.1 Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October 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.</p> <p><b><i>RESOLVED:</i></b>  <b><i>That the Minutes of the Parish Council held on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2022 be approved and adopted as a true record</i></b></p>
4	<p><b><u>Matters Arising</u></b>  4.1 <b>The Queen's Green Canopy Memorial Tree Planting</b>  Members noted and discussed The Woodland Trust booklet 'Tree species handbook a technical guide for practitioners' noting the recommendation that Rowan and Whitebeam would be suitable species to plant in Beacon Woods.</p> <p><b><i>RESOLVED:</i></b>  <b><i>That the Clerk ascertain if any funding is available to purchase trees and to proceed with sourcing suitable trees.</i></b></p> <p>4.2 <b>Remembrance Day Service – Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2pm</b>  Was attended by approximately 60 people including representatives from Bean Primary School and Bean Scouts. It was noted that unfortunately the sound of passing traffic drowned out some of the speakers and it was agreed to seek an amplification system for participants to use next year.</p>

	<p><b>4.3 Dog poo bags</b></p> <p>It was noted that all the bags were removed from all the dispensers almost immediately after replenishment which was unusual as normally the dispensers are not emptied for some days. The dispensers will be replenished as normal and the usage monitored.</p>
5	<p><b><u>Announcements from the Chair</u></b></p> <p>None</p>

6	<p><b><u>Community Rural Warden</u></b></p> <p>A new Community Warden has been appointed for Longfield and Bean and should, following completion of her training, start a 3–4-week period of orienteering at the end of November before taking up post in January. 2<sup>nd</sup> Information and warm hub was held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022, 1.30 – 3pm at Bean Village Hall and attended by Cllr. Weeks. To encourage attendance at the Hub meetings it has been suggested that the Community Wardens visit the school and ask if the meetings could be publicised in the school’s newsletters.</p>
7	<p><b><u>Correspondence</u></b></p> <p>The following was noted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Committee for Standards in Public Life has issued best practice recommendations on how to embed high ethical standards in public sector organisations. Recommendation No. 11 <i>‘Formal standards complaints about the conduct of a parish councillor towards a clerk should be made by the chair or by the parish council as a whole, rather than the clerk in all but exceptional circumstances’</i>, is drawn to Council’s attention.</li> </ul> <p>Parish councillors, clerk and chair should work together as a team and combine energies and skills to deliver real benefits to the community they serve. Good working relationships, mutual respect and an understanding of their different roles are vital. In the view of the Monitoring Officer, ‘exceptional circumstances’ would include conflict between the Clerk (as employee) and the Parish Council (as employer) where the Clerk is not treated with respect by the Parish Council.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- LGA – ‘Working between the tiers’.</li> <li>- Kent’s Plan Bee October newsletter.</li> <li>- The Boundary Commission for England has released its final proposals for the Parliamentary Constituency: -</li> <li>- <a href="https://boundarycommissionforengland.independent.gov.uk/">https://boundarycommissionforengland.independent.gov.uk/</a></li> </ul> <p>In summary, the final proposals are as previously proposed. The Dartford Constituency will no longer include the areas of Hartley and Hodsoll Street ward from Sevenoaks, but the Wilmington, Sutton-at-Hone &amp; Hawley, and Darenth wards would be removed from Dartford and form part of the Sevenoaks Constituency.</p> <p>Any comments on the proposals can be submitted via the Boundary Commissions website.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rural Bulletin 18, 25 October, 1, 8 November</li> <li>- Bluewater community forum at Bluewater which is being held on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November 6pm – 8pm. Refreshments will be served from 5.45pm.</li> <li>- Santa’s Bus Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 3pm – Black Horse Car Park.</li> <li>- #KnowSeeSpeakOut ‘Be Domestic Abuse Aware’ Conference - to be held on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November at The Orchard Theatre, Dartford</li> </ul>

8	<p><b><u>KALC/SLCC/NALC</u></b>  The following were received and noted.</p> <p><b>8.1</b> Notice &amp; papers for the KALC AGM 19th November 2022</p> <p><b>8.2</b> November NALC Newsletter</p> <p><b>8.3</b> November NALC Chief Executive's Bulletin</p> <p><b>8.3</b> KALC October newsletter</p>
9.	<p><b><u>Parish Forum</u></b>  With reference to the LGA document 'Working between the Tiers' received under correspondence Councillors discussed the contents and considered that it would be a suitable topic for discussion at the Parish Forum.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b>  <i>That the Clerk request that the LGA Document 'Working between the Tiers' be included on the agenda for the 17<sup>th</sup> January 2023 meeting of the Parish Forum.</i></p>
10	<p><b><u>GDPR</u></b>  No matters to consider at time of publication</p>
11	<p><b><u>Lower Thames Crossing</u></b>  Lower Thames Crossing: Community video newsletter - Autumn 2022 was noted  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RECEJs_ZZboE">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RECEJs_ZZboE</a></p>
12	<p><b><u>Consultations</u></b>  <b>12.1 Kent Minerals and Waste Local Plan Regulation 18 Public Consultation.</b>  The Consultation deadline had been extended from 4th December to midnight on Monday 12th December 2022. It was noted that there are no areas of concern identified in the consultation for either Bean or the surrounding area.</p>
13	<p><b><u>Kent Police</u></b>  <b>13.1</b> The October report was noted  <b>Crimes of note:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Southfleet Road – Dog Dangerous – Informant took their dog to Beacon Wood Country Park, when a dog attacked their dog and bit informant. Crime report and a Community Protection Warning was sent to Offender.</li> </ul> <p><b>Anti-social behaviour and other incidents of note:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School Lane – Animal straying – Horse out of paddock, was returned by member of the public.</li> </ul> <p>There were no items of <b>Good Work in Bean</b></p>
14	<p><b><u>Planning</u></b>  <b>The following were noted</b></p> <p><b>14.1</b> Weekly planning lists from DBC including Planning Decisions taken under delegated powers</p> <p><b>14.2</b> Weekly planning lists from EDC</p> <p>It was noted that the following application has been GRANTED</p> <p><b>14.3 DA/22/01061/FUL</b>  7 School Lane  Erection of a single storey rear infill extension</p>

15	<p><b><u>Highways</u></b></p> <p><b>15.1 Meeting with National Highways</b> National Highways had indicated that they would be happy to meet with both Bean RA and Bean PC at Bluewater but no date has been set.</p> <p><b>15.2 20mph Speed limit in Bean</b> Order has been raised.</p> <p><b>15.3 One.Network training for Councillors</b> Was noted</p>
16	<p><b><u>Environmental Issues</u></b></p> <p><b>16.1 Fly tipping in Sandy Lane</b> Further to the Council's concern about the increase in fly-tipping in this road and whether there were any proactive measures that could be taken to prevent or reduce the number of occurrences, Cllr. Hammock raised the Council's concerns with the Waste and Parks Manager and received the following response. <i>Further to our discussion yesterday, here are the main issues that affect our ability to stop fly-tipping in Sandy Lane and other similar areas:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>When fly-tipping has occurred we either need some evidence in it, or a witness, or cctv footage, to try to find the offender and fine or prosecute them</i></li> <li>• <i>We have a two mobile cctv cameras which are used at our recycling sites, as these attract the most dumping, and they cost approx. £2k each per month to run. We cannot cover country lanes with cctv cameras as we need safe locations to put them and the cost would be prohibitive</i></li> <li>• <i>Country lanes are full of passing places and field entrances that are easy to pull into and therefore, vulnerable to fly tipping – we cannot block them off because they are either needed for traffic flow or to gain access to a field (and as we are not the Highway Authority we do not have the authority to do this in any case)</i></li> </ul> <p><i>We receive anywhere between 200 and 300 reports of fly-tipping each month, which is comparable with and no worse, or better, than other boroughs.</i></p> <p><i>We do have a better than most rate of catching and fining offenders.</i></p>
17	<p><b><u>Footpaths</u></b></p> <p><b>17.1 DR25</b> In response to the Council's query to the PROW Officer as to why the section of DR25 footpath from its junction with School Lane down to where it crosses DR24 is not maintained as a 2 metres wide track as clearly stated on the definitive map revision 2013 TQ57SE reference corrected MMO dated 2005 the following response was received.</p> <p><i>That is easy to answer in that we cut the path for the use of the path. So, although the path is 2 metres wide the traffic does not demand this. If we did, I'm sure we would experience vehicles using it and churning up the surface.</i></p> <p><b>17.2 Fly-tipping on DR25</b> Confirmation has been received that DBC and not KCC are responsible for the clearance waste/fly-tipping on PROW footpaths,</p>
18	<p><b><u>Beacon Woods</u></b></p> <p><b>18.1 HE Landscaping project in Beacon Woods</b></p>

	<p>Awaiting response from National Highways/Balfour Beatty on outstanding issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The pegging of the perimeter logging for the car-parks</li> <li>- The provision of additional closing times for the Ladder sign</li> </ul>
<b>19</b>	<p><b><u>Recreation Facilities</u></b></p> <p><b>19.1</b> Repairs to the vehicular gates have been completed.</p> <p><b>19.2</b> Replacement of fencing behind the goal posts nearest to the play equipment has been completed.</p> <p><b>19.3</b> Installation of additional brackets to secure fencing to in toddler area has been completed.</p>
<b>20</b>	<p><b><u>Bean Village Hall</u></b></p> <p>It was noted that the annual PAT (Portable Appliance Testing) has been completed.</p>
<b>21</b>	<p><b><u>Allotments Association</u></b></p> <p><b>21.1</b> Bean Allotments Association AGM - Monday 28th November 2022 at 7pm at Bean Village Hall</p> <p>The following document was approved:</p> <p><b>21.1.1</b> Proposed TOR for Bean Allotments Association Committee which makes provision for the inclusion of a representative from Bean Parish Council to sit on the Committee.</p> <p>This document will be presented at the BAA AGM for approval by BAA Members.</p> <p>It was noted that should Bean Allotments Association fail to elect sufficient members to form a committee the management of the allotments would revert to the Parish Council.</p> <p>In the event that the management of the allotments reverts to the Parish Council the following document was approved.</p> <p><b>21.1.2</b> TOR for Bean Parish Council Allotment Sub-Committee</p>
<b>22</b>	<p><b><u>Residents' Association</u></b></p> <p><b>22.1</b> The minutes of the October meeting were noted.</p>
<b>23</b>	<p><b><u>Community Bus</u></b></p> <p><b>23.1 Outstanding Invoice</b></p> <p>The Clerk is in receipt of the Community Bus bank details and the current signatories and will make arrangements for the account to be wound up.</p>
<b>24</b>	<p><b><u>Spirit's Rest</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Representatives attended a table top exercise for emergencies on the Bridge Estate which could affect Dartford Bridge.</li> <li>- The sanctuary will host a visit from DBC Santa On Tour which will be part of a whole day event</li> <li>- 2 family days have taken place.</li> <li>- Representatives attended a Remembrance Day services together with ponies.</li> <li>- The sanctuary is now partners with the North Kent RSPCA</li> <li>- Two Shetland ponies will be joining the sanctuary shortly.</li> <li>- New paddock has been erected.</li> </ul>

25

**Finance****25.1 Bank and Scribe reports up to 31 October 2022**

The following were noted

- Co-op Bank transactions on all accounts 1- 31 October 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 31 October 2022 on all accounts****Bean Parish Council**

Reserve Account	6485.79
Current Account (No. 1 account)	11828.80
Petty Cash	82.66
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>18,397.25</b>

**Bean Village Hall**

Current Account (No. 2 account)	19943.79
Petty Cash	76.37
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20,020.16</b>

**25.3 Clerks' National Pay Agreement**

The Pay Agreement for 2022-2023 was noted and an increase of £1.30/hour backdated to April 2022 was APPROVED.

**25.4 CIL Payment**

We have been advised that a CIL payment was received by the Borough Council during the period 1st April to 30th September 2022 from development within Bean parish. Therefore, a Neighbourhood Portion of £2,431.63 will be transferred to Bean Parish Council. The CIL payment received relates to the following development: DA/20/00797 Land Adjacent to 31 School Lane, Bean.

**25.5 Scribe – price increase**

We have been advised of the following

*New prices come into effect from 1st November, but we know that price changes can be challenging so the increase will not come into effect until your next renewal date on or after the 1st of April 2023.*

*We wanted to let you know now rather than at your renewal date as we know that you will shortly be discussing your budget for 2023.*

*Your subscription increases by £5.33 per month*

*All subscriptions will increase from the 1st of April and for you, your current monthly subscription fee will increase by £5.33 per month for Accounts used by Bean Parish Council. This gives you a new monthly subscription of £32.00 per month (paid annually as per usual).*

The Clerk will check the basis on which these charges are calculated, eg precept, Number of electors, etc.

**25.6 Budget**

Councillors requested that a new notice board and bollards on the verging of

	Southfleet Road be included in the costings. A draft budget will be presented for discussion at the December meeting.
<b>26</b>	<b><u>Items of interest</u></b> There were no items of interest

**There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 9.30pm**

**Chair.....**

**Date .....**