

MINUTES
BEAN PARISH COUNCIL
Monday 16th December 2024
at 7.00pm
at
Bean Village Hall

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.

Present: Cllr. K Clarke, Cllr. D Hammock, Cllr. A Munday (Vice-Chair),
 Cllr. J Turner-Burgin, Cllr. K Turner-Burgin (Chair), Cllr. S Weeks,
 Cllr. T Williams

There were no members of the public present.

	Agenda Item
1	<p><u>Apologies for absence</u> None, all members were present.</p>
2	<p><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 an agenda item. 2.2.1 It was noted that Cllr. Hammock sits on DBC Development Board and therefore will refrain from any discussions or decisions regarding planning matters.</p>
	<p><u>Public Participation (Local Government Act, s 100)</u> The council meets and makes its decisions in public. A council meeting is not a public meeting. It is a meeting held in public and there is no requirement in law which allows members of the public to speak at such meetings.</p> <p>However, the council is keen to encourage public attendance at meetings and will therefore provide an opportunity to local registered electors to show it is committed to community engagement.</p> <p>A maximum of 3 minutes is allowed per person to speak and the total length of time afforded for public participation at each meeting shall be no more than 10 minutes, subject to an extension of this time, in exceptional circumstances, being agreed by the Chairman.</p>
4	<p><u>Minutes</u> 4.1 To APPROVE the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 11th November 2024 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>RESOLVED: <i>That the Minutes of the Parish Council held on 11th November 2024 be approved and adopted as a true record.</i></p>

5	<p><u>Items for Consideration</u> The Chairman advised that no items had been received for consideration since agenda production that were suitably urgent to be discussed at the meeting.</p>
6	<p><u>Correspondence</u> The following items of correspondence were noted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - E-watch Newsletters - Rural Services network The Rural Bulletin - 26 November, 3, 10 December 2024 - Rural services network funding digest - Clear Councils recently announced their partnership with Ecclesiastical, a specialist insurer and part of the Benefact Group, and are proud to share news of their annual programme Movement for Good, which is currently running its 12 Days of Giving draws. The 12 Days of Giving is a great way to say thanks to charities who work tirelessly throughout the year to support those in need. All you have to do is nominate your chosen charity, and they'll be entered into the draws for a chance to receive £1000. Council members nominated Arrow Riding Centre, Darenth Park Avenue, Dartford, Kent DA2 6LZ. Registered Charity Number: 291623. arc@arrowridingcentre.com - Bluewater Community News - The Community Safety Unit are seeking the views of the public with regards to the renewal of the Borough Wide Nuisance Vehicle Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO), which was first implemented in May 2022. <p>DBC believes that having the PSPO in place, alongside other initiatives and powers will assist in its efforts to prevent and effectively manage anti-social behaviour, but we also want to hear the views of residents, visitors and businesses within the Borough. Please look at link below for the current Order before completing the consultation. The consultation will close on Sunday 5th January 2025. The link below is to the current Order, the Council is proposing to renew this current Order with the same conditions. https://www.dartford.gov.uk/community-safety/public-space-protection-order/5 To complete the online consultation click here. Council members were unanimous that the Borough Wide Nuisance Vehicle Public Spaces Protection Order be continued.</p>
7	<p><u>KALC/SLCC/NALC</u></p> <p>7.1 The following were noted: Papers for KALC's 77th AGM on 30th November 2024</p> <p>7.2 Dartford Area Committee The proposed date for next meeting is 10th February 2025 at 7.30pm which is the same night as the Council's February meeting. The Clerk has advised KALC.</p> <p>7.3 The December newsletter and the salt-gritting routes for this winter was noted.</p> <p>7.4 Chair's Networking Forum - 27th January at 6.30pm</p>
8	<p><u>Parish Forum</u> Next meeting Tuesday 14th January 2025.</p>
9	<p><u>GDPR</u> No matters to consider at time of publication.</p>

10	<p><u>Consultations</u> 10.1 The Kent Fire and Rescue Service consultation was completed.</p>
11	<p><u>Kent Police</u> 11.1 PCC Autumn Newsletter was noted.</p>
12	<p><u>Planning</u> The following were noted. 12.1 Weekly planning lists from DBC including Planning Decisions taken under delegated powers 12.2 Weekly planning lists from EDC</p>
13	<p><u>Highways</u> 13.1 Members considered the letter from a resident regarding Urgent Need for Traffic Management Measures at the Junction into Bean Village from A2/Bluewater Roundabout. The roads and associated signage at Bean Roundabout are the responsibility of National Highways and/or KCC. The Council continues to regularly lobby National Highways regarding concerns raised by local residents. KCC have confirmed that whilst they have no plans to introduce any new measures at this current time, they would reassure residents that they remain committed to road safety and reducing the number of people injured on our roads is one of their top priorities. They continue to monitor sites such as the Bluewater junction all over the county as part of their annual crash cluster review process. We are currently awaiting National Highways A2 scheme Audit report. 13.2 Members received a verbal report on the zoom meeting attended by Cllrs. Clarke, Munday and the Clerk with the Road Safety Engineering Project Manager – Highway Improvements (West Kent – Dartford & Gravesham) Community & Engagement – Road Safety & Active Travel Group to discuss speeding though the village and further options available, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Setting up a Speed Watch Team; It was agreed that Cllr. Clarke will contact the Community Speedwatch Manager to discuss the setting up of a Speedwatch Team. - Considering the suggestion to move the start of the 20mph speed limit on entering the village from Bean A2 roundabout to the roundabout with Beacon Drive and making the section of Bean Lane from the A2 roundabout to Beacon Drive 30mph. It was agreed to request the movement of the 20mph speed limit sign from Bean Lane to the roundabout with Beacon Drive. 13.3 Members considered the request from BRA for the Council to support their request for the re-instatement of width restriction signs and for KCC to raise a TRO to make the signage enforceable rather than advisory. Members agreed to request that KCC reinstate the sign “Width Limit South of Bean” together with signage stating that the route is not for Fresh Fruit Service vehicles.</p>
14	<p><u>Environmental Issues</u> There were no matters to consider.</p>
15	<p><u>Footpaths</u> There were no matters to consider.</p>

16	<p><u>Beacon Woods</u></p> <p>16.1 The Dartford CIL Funding Allocation Grant letter for the Beacon Wood Enhancement project has been received, signed and returned. Following the Clerk’s conversation with DBC the following is noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Invoices, without VAT, can be submitted to DBC for payment on completion or part completion of each element of the grant. - Monies from one element may be vired to another element as long as the final total does not exceed that of the CIL Funding allocated. - Although desirable that all work is completed within the financial year, ie before the end of March 2025, it is recognised that a lot of the work is weather dependent and therefore may be re-scheduled to take place when the weather improves in the Spring. <p>16.2 Car-Parking Management</p> <p>It was noted that the contract between BPC and Tarmac states the following: “Permitted Use” means use as a country park for the benefit and enjoyment of the general public only and for other uses consistent with such use (including an allowance for chargeable car parking required for the convenience and enjoyment of park country park visitors) and in keeping with countryside activities.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) <i>That a 3-year contract be entered into with UKCPS Ltd for a Car Park Management at Beacon Woods Country Park, DA2 8AR using RINGO payment system.</i> 2) <i>That the charges be £1 for the first 2 hours and then £2 for 2 hours plus.</i> 3) <i>That the Management Scheme commences on Saturday 1st February 2025 and that signage advising visitors of the new parking arrangements be erected as soon as possible.</i>
17	<p><u>Recreation Facilities</u></p> <p>17.1 The repairs to the equipment and basketball back boards have been completed.</p> <p>17.2 The replacement fencing behind the goal mouth nearest the play equipment has been installed.</p>
18	<p><u>Bean Village Hall</u></p> <p>There were no matters to consider.</p>
19	<p><u>Allotment Association</u></p> <p>19.1 AGM – Monday 25th November 2024 at 7pm. Members received a verbal report.</p> <p>19.2 Members considered the proposal from the floor at the above AGM for the bottom plots of row 1 to be grassed over to provide a parking area for cars. The request was refused as this would a change of use from allotment use to car-parking.</p>
20	<p><u>Residents’ Association</u></p> <p>20.1 The Minutes of the meeting held on 4th November 2024 were noted.</p> <p>20.2 The agenda and supporting papers for the meeting on 2nd December 2024 were noted.</p>
21	<p><u>Finance</u></p> <p>21.1 Balance as at 30 November on all accounts</p>

Bean Parish Council

Reserve Account	14,198.58
Current Account (No. 1 account)	7,747.50
Petty Cash	17.66
TOTAL	21,963.74

Bean Village Hall

Current Account (No. 2 account)	13,544.05
Petty Cash	39.29
TOTAL	13583.34

21.2 Bank and Scribe reports up to 30 November 2024

The following were received and discussed.

- Co-op Bank transactions on all accounts 1- 30 November 2024
- 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

21.3 Insurance

To note that Clear Councils are proud to announce their partnership with Ecclesiastical; a specialist insurer and member of the Benefact Group who donate available profit to charities and other good causes

21.4 Precept 2025-2026

Further to the resolution at the November meeting approving the 2025/2026 Budget which set the Precept at £35,611.00, DBC have set the Council Tax Base for Bean at 543.88 which gives a Band D rate of £65.48/year for 2025/26.

21.5 CIL Funding

During the finance year 2022-23 (October 2022) BPC received £2,431.63 CIL funding which, under CIL Regulation 59E, the Borough Council may serve a notice on BPC requiring it to repay some or all of the CIL receipts that has not been applied to support development in its area within 5 years of receipt (October 2027) Government guidance requires that "The local councils must use the CIL receipts passed to them to support the development of the local council's area by funding the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure; or anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on the local area".

Members considered areas of provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure for which Council may wish to apply CIL funding.

RESOLVED:

That the £2,431.63 CIL money received in the financial year 2022-23 be allocated towards the purchase and installation of replacement fencing behind the goal mouths in the recreation area.

21.6 Bean PC Capacity Building Funds

Members received an update on the outstanding Capacity Building Funds held by SAH&H on BPC's behalf.

	<p>RESOLVED: <i>That Cllr. Hammock will seek advice from the legal and finance departments at DBC regarding BPC's request for reimbursement from SAH&H PC of outstanding Building Capacity funds.</i></p>
	<p><u>Items of interest</u> 22.1 Chair's Items The Chair reported on a recent visit to Spirit's Rest. Your Trusted Plan 22.2 Borough Councillor's Items Reminded members about Santa's visit 22 December 2024 at 11.30 22.3 Members' Item Cllr Weeks thanks Cllr Clarke and Joan Gould for their hard work in organising the December meeting of Bean Together and expressed her sadness that due to lack of volunteers to organise future meetings that the group be closed. 22.4 Clerk's Items The Clerk's report was received and noted.</p>

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 9.10pm

Chair..... Date