

MINUTES
BEAN PARISH COUNCIL
Monday 9th February 2026
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, Cllr. J Turner-Burgin, Cllr. K Turner-Burgin (Chair), Cllr. SA Weeks, Cllr. T Williams

Community PC and PCSO were in attendance

	Agenda Item
1	<p><u>Apologies for absence</u> There were no apologies, 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 that Cllr. Hammock sits on DBC Development Board and therefore, will refrain from any discussions or decisions regarding planning matters.</p>
3	<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 12th January 2026 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 meeting held on Monday 12th January 2026 be approved and adopted as a true record</i></p>

5	<p><u>Items for Consideration</u> The Chairman announced that as two Police Officers were in attendance an in order that the Officers did not have to remain until Item 10 on the agenda (Kent Police), and in case they were called away, the Chairman announced that he would move Item 10 to be taken before Item 6 (Correspondence).</p>
10	<p>Kent Police</p> <p>10.1 Members noted the IAG Handbook for 2023-25 and that Cllr. Williams attended the meeting held on Tuesday 27th January at 1830 at Gravesend Civic Centre. A questionnaire will be sent to Members inviting them to respond with what they considered would be the policing priorities the community of Bean would most like to see addressed over the coming year. These points will then be discussed at the March meeting and presented by Cllr. Williams to the next IAG Meeting.</p> <p>10.2 PC Swan's forthcoming surgeries open to the public to raise issues or have a chat are: Darent valley hospital Main Foyer– 06/03/2026 @ 1000-1100 Longfield Costa Coffee DA3 7QD – 04/04/2026 @ 1000-1100 Hawley Garden Centre DA2 7RB – 02/05/2026 @ 1400 – 1500</p> <p>10.3 PC Swan introduced himself and his colleague. PC Swan reported that the theft of motor vehicles and motor bikes in Bean has decreased and that the main area for off-road bikes had moved away from Bean to Darenth. Police can remove untaxed vehicles two months after the tax has run out. Residents are encouraged to attend the open surgeries to raise any matter of concern directly with PC Swan.</p>
6	<p><u>Correspondence</u> The following items of correspondence were noted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rural Services Bulletin 13, 20, 27 January 2026, 3 February 2026 - Minutes of Bean RA January meeting and agenda for February meeting. Confirmation that the Association’s AGM will take place on Monday 14th September 2026. - The response from DBC Enforcement Services Team relating to Civic Enforcement in rural communities, as follows: - <i>Our current practice is to rotate the Civil Enforcement Team through all 50 or so schools in the borough on a continuing basis, whilst also carrying out patrols of the town centres and known problem areas. During 2025 approx. 900 Penalty Charge Notices were issued in respect of school related breaches, such as parking on zig-zag lines. It is not possible to sort the data available by ward or rural communities.</i> <p><i>Incidents of confrontation and dangerous driving should be reported to the Kent Police.</i></p> <p><i>Lime Bikes are the responsibility of the operator – information on how to report abandoned bikes can be found at: https://help.li.me/hc/en-gb/articles/115004916388-How-to-report-illegally-parked-vehicles</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dartford and Gravesham NHS Trust's first unpaid carers engagement event, to be held on Tuesday 10th March. - RSN Monthly Rural Funding Digest – February 2026 edition
7	<p><u>KALC/SLCC/NALC</u> 7.1 New Devolution Page https://www.kentalc.gov.uk/devolution</p>

	<p>7.2 Correspondence from KALC/NALC - KALC News February 2026 - Chief Executive’s bulletin 22, 29 Jan 2026</p> <p>7.3 Dartford Area Committee – Wednesday 4th February at 6.30pm The online meeting scheduled for 6.30pm on Wednesday 4th February was cancelled at 5.22 by email from KALC due to 3 apologies for non-attendance having been received.</p>
8	<p><u>GDPR and Governance compliance</u></p> <p>8.1 Freedom of Information Training The Clerk recommended Councillors to undertake the following training. https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/foi/learning-resources-and-training-videos/foia-and-eir-training-videos/?fbclid=IwDGRzaAPbSDljbGNrA9tII2V4dG4DYWVtAjExAHNydgMGYXBwX2lkDDM1MDY4NTUzMTcyOAABHhr91uj6NdnvBnvq_EwDnDWbNcR9U9XtQVfgot-fAUzIXUHc9GsYoA6Sptfq_aem_6r8B3kckz_FxgE14fbcOAg&sfnsn=scwspmo</p> <p>8.2 Assertion 10 training Will be delivered by the Clerk to all members at the March meeting.</p>
9	<p><u>Consultations</u> No matters to consider at time of publication</p>
11	<p><u>Planning</u> The following were noted.</p> <p>11.1 Weekly planning lists from DBC including Planning Decisions taken under delegated powers</p> <p>11.2 Weekly planning lists from EDC</p> <p>11.3 TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 Application under Schedule 2, Part 3, Class Q of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015 as to whether prior approval is required for proposed change of use from an agricultural building to 5 dwellings (C3 Use class). Farmland Rear Of Drudgeon Farm School Lane Bean Kent APPLICATION REFERENCE: DA/25/00857/P3Q APPEAL REFERENCE: APP/T2215/W/25/3373927 APPEAL STARTING DATE: 21st October 2025 To note this appeal was been dismissed on 26 January 2026</p> <p>11.4 DA/25/01017/FUL Bean House, Bean Lane, Bean Kent Erection of two-storey side extension REFUSAL of permission to Develop Land The extension, due to its volume, bulk, mass and visibility, would result in substantial harm to the openness of the Green Belt. In turn, the development is considered to be inappropriate development within the Green Belt. No Very Special Circumstances exist. Therefore, the proposal is contrary to Policy M12 of The Dartford Local Plan to 2037 and Chapter 13 of the NPPF.</p>

	<p>11.5 DA/25/01020/FUL Bean House, Bean Lane, Bean Kent Erection of single-storey rear extension Permission GRANTED</p>
12	<p><u>Highways</u> 12.1 Sandy Lane – closure 13-14 April 2026 12.2 Road Safety & Active Travel Newsletter Issue 7</p>
13	<p><u>Environmental Issues</u> No matters to consider at time of publication</p>
14	<p><u>Footpaths</u> 14.1 Reimbursement of costs involved in emergency tree work on DR22 has been received.</p>
15	<p><u>Beacon Woods</u> 15.1 The annual inspection report on Trim Trail was noted. Arrangements to be made for the wooden equipment be treated against moss and algae when the weather improves. 15.2 Income from car-parking for January 2026 £585.74 plus £48.70 in donations. 15.3 The Clerk’s report on damage to the gate at the Shellbank entrance was noted. The Clerk will contact Thames Water and UK Power Network to discuss sharing of the costs for repairs to both fencing and the gate.</p>
16	<p><u>Recreation Facilities</u> 16.1 Replacement Double Air Walker from Freshair Fitness scheduled to be installed on Monday 9th March 2026 at a total cost of £2,460.82 + VAT. 16.2 Following an incident at the recreation ground on Wednesday 4th February 2026 when KFAR were called to rescue a 13-year-old girl who had become stuck in one of the toddler swings, resulting in the swing having to be cut off, Members agreed that both toddler swings should be replaced at a cost of £820.00.</p>
17	<p><u>Bean Village Hall</u> 17.1 Bean Together change of time of meeting, 1.15 – 3.15pm 17.2 Damage to suspended ceiling As reported in the January Minutes a builder was contacted to attend the hall before the pre-school started on Tuesday 13th January 2026 but was subsequently unable to attend. A second builder attended the afternoon of 13th January and made safe the damaged section but advised that he was unable to carry out the necessary repairs. A third builder was contacted, who attended the afternoon of Wednesday 14th January, and confirmed that the ceiling had been temporarily made safe and that they would return on Wednesday 21st January to remove the ceiling tiles to inspect the damage in preparation for remedial work to be carried out during the February half term break. It was necessary to advise the pre-school that they would be unable to use the hall on Wednesday 21st January. Fortunately, the contractors were able to fully repair the ceiling on 21st January and no further closures were required. 17.3 The policy on Use of Inflatables at Bean Village Hall was approved.</p>

	<p>17.4 Cllr. Clarke has emailed the Social Prescriber Team from Swanscombe Health Care with regard to their proposal to run a warm hub coffee morning in Bean for the Community and is currently awaiting a response.</p> <p>17.5 Volunteer Driver Scheme Representatives from the Healthy Living Centre, Dartford who attend Bean Together announced that they have secured funding for Volunteer Driver Scheme in Bean for occasions such as taking residents to GP/hospital appointments and then they would wait for up to 2 hours. There is a cost involved but it would be less expensive than using a taxi service.</p> <p>17.6 Cracks on external rear wall. The insurance company has been advised of the above and that a survey by Super Speed Engineering will take place on Wednesday 18th February 2026 at 9am.</p>																
18	<p><u>Allotment Association</u> 18.1 The quotation from AP Trees of £750 + VAT for tree work at the allotments was approved.</p>																
19	<p><u>Finance</u> 19.1 Balance as at 31 January 2026 on all accounts</p> <p><u>Bean Parish Council (Co-op)</u></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="331 981 1209 1133"> <tr> <td>Reserve Account</td> <td>14,631.80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Current Account (No. 1 account)</td> <td>6,823.37</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Petty Cash</td> <td>9.51</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>21,464.68</td> </tr> </table> <p><u>Bean Village Hall (Co-op)</u></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="331 1205 1209 1323"> <tr> <td>Current Account (No. 2 account)</td> <td>19,467.78</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Petty Cash</td> <td>3.21</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>19,470.99</td> </tr> </table> <p><u>Bean Parish Council (Unity Trust – Beacon Woods)</u></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="331 1395 1209 1435"> <tr> <td>Current account</td> <td>21,309.69</td> </tr> </table> <p>Transactions on UT account since last meeting;</p> <p>Expenditure Website £2.99 TMS Protection (January) £354.97 Service Charge (December) £6.00</p> <p>Income Deposit from cash donations (January) £48.70 Car Parking December £558.00</p> <p>19.2 Bank and Scribe reports up to 31 January 2026 The following were received and discussed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Co-op Bank transactions on all accounts 1- 31 January 2026 - Bank reconciliation on all accounts as at 31 January 2026 to was agreed and signed - 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 	Reserve Account	14,631.80	Current Account (No. 1 account)	6,823.37	Petty Cash	9.51	TOTAL	21,464.68	Current Account (No. 2 account)	19,467.78	Petty Cash	3.21	TOTAL	19,470.99	Current account	21,309.69
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	<p>- Cost centre year comparisons</p> <p>19.3 Internal Auditor The Independent Internal Auditor has confirmed his willingness to conduct the AGAR 2025-26 Internal Audit and this will take place on Monday 1st June at 1pm at Bean Village Hall</p>
20	<p><u>Items of interest</u></p> <p>20.1 Chair's Items - None</p> <p>20.2 Borough Councillor's Items - None</p> <p>20.3 Members' Item</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - fly tipping in Sandy Lane in passing place opposite entrance to Blue House. Clerk to report. - pot holes in School Lane. Clerk to report. - grit bins in Stonewood and corner of Page Close/School Lane have been filled with rubbish. Report and ask if DBC could empty. - rubbish on and around Bean roundabouts and slip roads. Clerk to report to Highways/ National Highways, requesting litter pick. <p>20.4 Clerk's Items - None</p>

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 8.26pm

Chair.....

Date