

Newsletter of The Bean Residents Association

Our 47th Year

June 2012
2 / 12

BEAN'S TALK

Issued free to every
Household in Bean.

Web site: www.beanvillage.org.uk

E-mail beanra@waitrose.com

We welcome new residents to the village and to the Residents Association's
quarterly newsletter.

Please feel free to contribute your thoughts, ideas and comments.

The Next Neighbourhood Panel Meeting
will be held on Monday 2nd July Starting at 7.15 pm.
followed by
The Residents Association Meeting at 8.15 pm.

THE BEAN SCHOOL SUMMER FAYRE.

SATURDAY 26th MAY 2012 from 12 to 4 pm.

Huge Raffle First Prize - £100 gift vouchers from Bluewater,
Second Prize - A Kindle

Many stalls, BBQ, Refreshments and Dance and Gymnastic displays

Admission Adults 50p, Children 20p and under 5's Free.

St. Nicholas Church, Southfleet

Jubilee Party on Saturday 2nd June from 5 to 10.30 pm

(See page 22 for details)

The Bean Parish Fair will be held on Sunday 9th September
at Beacon Wood Country Park. (see page 17 for more information).

If you have any items which may be of interest to the community,
information on the Clubs, Activities, and general information about the
village, please consider submitting it to the Bean's Talk.

To contact the editor; e-mail: thebeanstalk@btinternet.com
Telephone 01474 704062 1 School Lane, Bean DA2 8AL.

**THE COPY DATE FOR THE SEPTEMBER
BEAN'S TALK IS WEDNESDAY 1st AUGUST**

Common abbreviations used in the newsletter

Cllr.	Councillor	KCC	Kent County Council
DATPC	Dartford Association of Town and Parish Councils	KHS	Kent Highway Services
DBC	Dartford Borough Council	NPM	Neighbourhood Panel Meetings.
BPC	Bean Parish Council	PCSO	Police Community Support Officer
		RA	Residents Association.

Information from the monthly meetings of **The Bean Residents Association.**

The following notes are from the March and April 2012 meetings.
(There was no meeting in May or June due to the Bank Holidays).

Funeral of Neil Pearson-Coffey (See page 7)

The funeral of Neil Pearson-Coffey took place on 7th March at the Blue Bell Hill Crematorium.

Election of a new RA Community Chair:

It was agreed that Duncan Wood (Vice Chair) would become the new Chair. There is still a vacancy for the position of Vice Chair.

Assistant Secretary's Report:

There were 8 items of correspondence sent out in March and 9 in April.

Planning Matters.

On the 12th April Vision Homes submitted a 5th application. It is for 6x3 bed and 2x4 bed homes in Beacon Drive / Drudgeon Way. DBC will consider the proposals at the 21st June Development Control Board. Submit comments as soon as possible.

Bluewater.

Since the opening there have been extra events in the restricted period. Bluewater have also submitted a full application for a 110 bed hotel on site to support the events venue. A letter was sent to Mr. Lauder listing our concerns, regarding the hotel application.

The Bluewater Gift wrap scheme raised £3,000 of which £250 can be applied for. Bean RA supported the £250 grant from the Community Chest fund for the horse sanctuary.

Policing Reports by PC Tony Quilter and PCSO Steve Howard. (See page 10)

There were been no reported incidents of Anti-Social behaviour within the last month.

Points of contact for neighbourhood officers have changed. PC Quilter will be the designated point of contact and the website will be amended to help

DISCLAIMER: The Editor and Association Officers of the Bean Residents Association do not necessarily agree with all the views and advice expressed within this newsletter and whilst every care has been taken to ensure accuracy of the information cannot accept liability from erroneous information published herein.

ease contact for community engagements.

PC Rob Payne, Tony Quilter and PCSO Steve Howard and Lorraine Silvester are working together to tackle issues.

Four PCSO's have been lost to the area due to budget cuts.

The Dartford police station site was to be used to build a Lidl store. (*DBC have rejected the proposal*) The police reception desk is in the Dartford Council Offices foyer.

Adhoc Speed / awareness checks are imminent in Bean,

Liaison with Bus Company on possibility of changing the bus timing at the end of the school day.

Racial abuse outside the Black Horse,

Catalytic converters stolen from the Kings Ferry car park,

Vehicle stolen from Merry Chest and vehicle damaged outside Forrestralls,

A lorry trying to turn at the junction with Shellbank Lane became stuck fast blocking the road through the village. Sat. Nav. software error, needs a update.

Sandy Lane Application for two Dwellings.

The application for two detached houses was approved prior to Christmas despite 3 objections regarding access to the site. The applicant is believed to own a further 10 acres along School Lane. Concerns over drainage through back gardens and parking in Sandy Lane were to be resolved.

Neighbourhood Watch.

Warning about bogus charity bags being distributed, take your items to a charity shop if possible.(see page 15)

Make sure vehicles are securely locked.

Beware of bogus calls or e-mails from banks requesting bank details.

Parish Council Report - Beacon Wood Country Park. (see page 21)

Funds have been obtained for new signs for the Country Park.

The Community Bus (See page 5 also)

A fund raising fair was held at the Community Centre on 7th April.

An application to join the Commercial Transport Association has been submitted which should reduce insurance costs.

Pollution in the Hope and Ightham Cottages area. (See page 26/27)

Our Press Officer, Peter Luker, wrote to Jeremy Kite concerning the high air pollution levels at the Ightham/Hope Cottages roundabouts asking if a meeting could be arranged to discuss the matter.

Peter Luker and Duncan Woods suggested that air pollution in and around Hope and Ightham Cottages is so high to warrant health checks for residents.

Other Village Issues and any other business mentioned were:

Water Rates had been received and members were reminded that a reduction is available if the surface water drains to soakaways. It was recommended that a comparison be made between Thames Water and Southern Water rates. Duncan Wood said that DBC now monitor pollution at the front and back of his house.

It was agreed that £20-00 would be donated towards the cost of a park bench in memory of Neil Pearson-Coffey.

Parking in School Lane

Some parents are parking on the double yellow lines, the ongoing issues are being referred to Parking Enforcement and the use of cameras has been suggested. Refer vehicle obstructions to Tony Quilter, or phone 101.

Concern about the parking problems at Darent Valley Hospital causing traffic delays and the Fastrack traffic lights operating when no buses are approaching were discussed.

It was noted that the Ashwood Place sign and light had been demolished by a lorry.

More lorries are coming through the village. The survey is ongoing.

Water Rates for Bean. Some residents pay Thames Water for drinking water and Southern Water for sewage services, whilst others pay Thames Water for both. There is an arrangement for Bean to ensure both pay the same rate.

The National Planning Policy Framework having been reduced from 600 to 50 pages is pretty vague and raises concerns on any future Beacon Drive / Drudgeon Way applications.

A Full Submission for the house next to No. 1 Ashwood Place is expected.

Concerns were raised over traffic during the Olympic Games. Lorraine Silvester (see page 10 for contact details) will be the point of contact to report anything suspicious. Be alert to any terrorist threat.

Width restriction signs are required for Sandy Lane.

**The next Residents Association Meeting will be
held at the Community Centre,
on Monday 2nd July starting at 8.15 p.m.
following an NPM meeting with the Police starting at 7.15 pm.
All Bean residents are invited to attend.**

THE BEAN COMMUNITY BUS.

Urgently Required

We urgently require a secure parking space for the Community Mini Bus as we can no-longer use the parking space we have had since the summer of 2005. (If you can help please contact Colin)

We need your suggestions for day trips. If you have any ideas, or require to book a trip, please leave a note for Colin in the Post Office or phone Colin on 01474 832 793 for more information.

Bus Trips

DATE	VENUE	Bus Fare
Sunday 10th June	Detling Antiques Fayre	£ 7
Tuesday 12th June	Canterbury	£10
Monday 18th June	Herne Bay	£8
Sunday 24th June	Nettlestead Place Garden	£ 7 (Entrance fee £5) Phone Martin on 01474 708 916 to book. <i>Leaving Bean at 1.15 pm.</i>
Monday 9th July	Whitstable	£8

Future trips will be advertised on the village notice board outside the Post Office. ***Please support these events so that the future of the bus can be assured.***

A big thank you to everyone who took part in the Easter Raffle/ Fayre. In total we raised over £500 which will be a big help towards our insurance which is quoted as £2,500.

Missing from Bean Primary School!

Over the Easter Holidays our 'Story Telling Chair' was taken from the wooded area surrounding our field.

This chair was bought by our last Year 6 class, as a leaving gift to the school. The children worked so hard to reach their goal and raised £603.35 during their enterprise week to purchase our chair.

If anyone knows anything about its whereabouts please let us know! Many thanks from the children at Bean Primary School!

**School Office: 01474 833225
Kent Police: dial 101 quoting reference XY/12/40/14/12**

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Dartford Borough Council Consults - Parking Standards

Bean RA and Bean PC were among those attending a Stakeholder Workshop at DBC Offices, on 16th January 2012, to discuss proposed new Parking Standards. It resulted in a draft Parking Standards Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) being issued in April 2012 with a deadline for comments of 23rd May,

The SPD covers all locations and land uses in the Borough, but the requirements in the Rural Area/Villages differ from that for the Town Centre and Urban areas. Guidance includes: -

- Parking space for cycles, mopeds, scooters, motorcycles, cars, vans and lorries
- Parking for people with impaired mobility
- Parking bay sizes
- Sizes of garages, car barns and car ports
- Design and management of parking areas.

NEIL PEARSON-COFFEY

Neil John Pearson-Coffey moved to the village of Bean in 1988 developing an interest in antiques and historic literature, building a large collection purchased from local auctions and on line where he also established Sarsfield Books, an eBay shop which specialised in old and historic books.

Neil utilised his best skills when he became a Parish Councillor for Bean, initially as a Labour Party representative and then latterly as an Independent. He fought for tenants' rights and for the interest of Bean Village, working closely with the police and Dartford Borough Council on many diverse issues ranging from roads and highways to safer neighbourhoods and was also instrumental in securing the lease for Beacon Wood Country Park from Lafarge on behalf of the Parish Council.

Neil wrote the Bean Community Column in the Dartford Messenger newspaper where he voiced his own and residents' concerns and until his death was the Chair of Bean Residents' Association and was an ardent supporter of the Community Bus. He was very highly thought of by the local community and by his family having recently become a grandfather to his eldest son's daughter.

Neil will be missed by those who knew and worked with him and his son would like to thank again everyone who attended his funeral which was held on the 7th March at Medway Crematorium. His son would also like to thank all those who made donations in his memory to both Spirit's Rest and Friends of Beacon Woods; the latter will be erecting a bench at Beacon Woods in his memory.

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If you are driving to France do not forget your breathalyser.

From the first of July all drivers and motor cyclists (over 50cc) in France will need to carry a **breathalyser kit** even for day trips.

From November there will be a €11 fine if you do not have one.

Single use kits, costing between £1 and £2, will be available at ferry and tunnel terminals.

The legal limit in France is 50mg/100ml of blood.

France's lower limit means it is very easy to be over the limit the morning after as well.

Anyone driving in France is already required to carry a warning triangle and fluorescent vest.

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Hayley Chuck's London Marathon.

I am pleased to announce that I completed the London Marathon in 5 hours and 56 minutes, through sun, rain, bruises, muscle pain and blisters! Thank you to everyone who has helped me to raise nearly £2,500 for the British Heart Foundation.

You can still donate by going to:

<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fundraiser-web/fundraiser/showfunFraiserPage.action?userUrl=HayleyChuck&fald=120277&Team=false>

BEAN YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Over Easter following a further grant to the Community Centre from the Foyle Foundation we were able to complete the replacement of the leaking front gable of the building. The redundant electrical cupboard in the ladies toilet has now been removed and the ladies toilet has had a long overdue repaint. We continue to apply for funding to complete the improvements to the insulation of the building.

In April we held another sell-out fundraising music night with live music from our house band, "The Cover Notes". The evening raised £318 and the Committee would like to thank everyone who attended the evening and to especially extend our thanks to the Cover Notes for supporting us once again with this extremely popular event. Our next fundraiser will be a quiz night, planned for Saturday 21st July. These evenings are put together by Dave and Shirley (nee Martin) and are always enjoyable, even for those of us who leave our brains at home. Please look out for notices at the Community Centre and around the village for full details of how to reserve a table.

As always web users can support us through Easy Fundraising, if you're booking a holiday or renewing insurances and plenty more, just click through the Easy Fundraising site, full details on our website www.beancommunitycentre.co.uk. Some of these companies happily donate £10-£20 on holiday bookings and insurances and even using Amazon and Ebay brings in small regular amounts, it's just a case of remembering to click through the Easy Fundraising site, so do please remember us when you're doing your internet shopping.

And lastly, we do need extra support when we're having one of our working party days, no obligation to join the management committee, just an extra pair of hands on the day would be great. If you think you could help very occasionally then do please get in touch with one of the committee members or via the website with your name and phone number.

Reports from PC Tony Quilter.

Dear Residents of Bean

For those that do not know me, my name is PC Tony QUILTER and I am your local Neighbourhood Beat Officer. I along with PCSO Steve HOWARD regularly patrol Bean. Crime in Bean is relatively low and it is our aim to ensure it stays that way. We will endeavour to tackle / deter crime and anti social behaviour in the village by means of high visibility patrols. With Summer on its way can I please ask that everybody ensures that all sheds and outbuildings are secured? Also please keep windows and doors to your property locked, this will help deter any opportunist thief from stealing from you. We currently have 5 active Neighbourhood Watch areas in Bean and I am keen to have more. Statistics show that Neighbourhood Watch areas are less likely to be targeted by criminals. Becoming a member of Neighbourhood Watch could also reduce your household insurance premiums. If any residents would like more information on Neighbourhood Watch then please do not hesitate to contact me.

One of the main concerns raised by residents of Bean is of the perceived speeding traffic through the village. In response to this we will be conducting regular speed enforcement checks at varying times of the day within the village.

For those of you that knew PCSO Dave DAVIES and are wondering where he is. It is with regret that he has retired from service following an absence for a neck injury. He has asked me to pass on his thanks to the residents of Bean for their support and making him feel so welcome during his time serving your community.

On behalf of Kent Police we wish you a happy and crime free Summer and if you wish to discuss any issues with Steve or myself please do not hesitate to contact us. If we do not answer we may be off duty, however please leave a message and we will ring you back.

Alternatively to report a crime that has already occurred or make an enquiry you can ring 101. If you require immediate Police attendance to report a crime in progress or where life is in danger then please ring 999. Together we can keep Bean a safe place to live and work.

Tony & Steve.

Points of Contact for local Police.

PC Tony Quilter 07870 252 387 e-mail 13045@kent.pnn.police.uk

PCSO Steve Howard 07528 989 357 e-mail 57751@kent.pnn.police.uk

My name is **Lorraine SILVESTER** and I am the Kent Police Community Liaison Officer for Bluewater and surrounding district, working alongside PC Tony QUILTER and PCSO Steven HOWARD to assist you with local

community issues that cause you concern. I am a direct link with Bluewater and keen to be a liaison between members of Bean community and Bluewater management. Please do feel free to call me at any time on my mobile number which is 07792 433392 or you may e-mail me on lorraine.silvester@kent.pnn.police.uk and I will be pleased to help.

I wish you all safety in your homes and I hope to be of service to you in the future.
Lorraine.



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St Nicholas at Bean



We are just about half way through another year. I hope by the time you read this the weather will be more like Summer so that we can enjoy the countryside around us. It would seem that the moment we are banned from using our hosepipes and the grass is beginning to turn brown that the Good Lord turns on the rain once again and everything around us starts to grow again, including the weeds.

Your church here in the village is continuing in much the same way that it has over the last twenty two years. We are at present collecting Woollies up until 8th July which will then be taken to Mustard Seed for distribution to some of the Third World countries in Europe.

Once again we are asking you to fill a Shoe Box for the deprived children. Perhaps during your summer holidays you might find some small items to give to this very worthy cause. When completed they can be brought to the Hall on Sunday mornings between 9.30 and 11.30 am. This slot will be available from the 5th August until Harvest Sunday 7th October.

This year we as a Nation have a lot of celebrating to get involved in. The Queens Diamond Jubilee and the Olympic Games. As a church we have our Annual BBQ and Songs of Praise on July 8th. It all starts at 12 noon, you bring whatever you like to be cooked and we will do the rest. Then at 2.30 pm, lasting around 40 minutes, we sing hymns and songs that have been chosen by people of the village. You will not be on TV as some were on two occasions earlier in the year. Come along and see if you recognise any of them.

As this is the last Bean's Talk before the Summer break, the Fellowship at St. Nicholas at Bean wish you all a very happy and safe holiday.

Don White

THE BOOK LOAN / EXCHANGE SCHEME.

The Free of charge book loan / exchange scheme is still being tried in the village. Books are mainly paperbacks of various types.

To succeed the scheme needs support, so bring your read books along to **No1 School Lane** and exchange them, or collect a book to start you off.

Mary



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DO YOU KNOW?

Do you know that on alternate Wednesday afternoons a club meets in Bean Community Hall for a social couple of hours for anyone aged 50 or over?

We have a laugh and a friendly chat, tea and biscuits and cakes on birthdays.

At the moment we play Bingo but are planning to go to places of interest for afternoon visits and arrange other entertainments. All suggestions are welcome.

The Parish Council pay for the community bus to collect members from around the village and return them home.

If you would like to come and see for yourself **phone Colin or Monica on 01474 832 793** and arrange to be collected by the bus. We start around the village at 1 pm. *We hope to see you soon.*

CHARITY CLOTHES COLLECTIONS.

As you may have read in the National Press, it seems that many of the collection companies, that leave the bags for filling, are not so much a charity as big business.

If you would like your charity donations to go direct to a local charity, as a registered volunteer with Ellenor Lions Hospices, I would be happy to collect your donated goods and take them to the Swanscome shop, as I go there regularly.

Just phone me on 01474 832 793 and leave a message and I will collect from you. *Colin*

Dartford Borough Council Consults-

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

The CIL regulations came into force in April 2010 and allow local authorities to raise funds from developers to pay for infrastructure, such as schools, health facilities and transport improvements, needed for new development.

The Levy is charged per net additional square metre of floor space and will be liable on most new development. Informal consultation has already taken place with landowners, developers and statutory agencies on viability assumptions.

DBC issued a Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule for public consultation in April with a deadline for comments of 21st May. Dartford's CIL proposes different rates depending on the development type and if it is located in the Rural Area/Villages or in the Town Centre or Urban area.

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Bean Parish Fair and Fun Day - Sunday 9th September 2012. at

Beacon Wood Country Park

Some people have raised concerns about the Fair moving to the Country Park. The reason for this is that there is so much more space over there we can do so much more than we could in the recreation ground.

There is ample parking and if it is requested we can possibly run the bus and we are planning to have a lollypop lady for anyone concerned about crossing the road.

Anybody that would like to run a stall should contact Alison Sakellariou on 01474 707 206 or e-mail the parish clerk on beanparishcouncil@btinternet.com. There are not many villages that have use of an entire country park so let us make the most of it.

Bean FC (Founded in 1955) – Sponsored by local companies Belting and A.S.M Builders was one of the original clubs that started the North Kent Sunday League.

In recent years they have been playing their football on Saturdays, in the Gravesend Football League between 2008-2010 and now currently in the Rochester & District (R&D) League.

In the previous two seasons since starting in Division 4 (of 7) of the R & D League the team has slowly grown and improved. Last season the team won their last 10 league games in a row to capture the Division 4 Title by 2 points. They were promoted two Divisions up to Division 2 for the current season 2011-2012.

This season has seen the club improve on last seasons effort. On Thursday 19th April Bean FC won the Group B Centenary Cup at Lordswood Football Ground, beating White Horse Borstal by 8-1!!! in what can only be described as a devastating display.

The club have then followed this by beating their main league challengers – Walderslade Wanderers by 2-0 on Sat 28th April to clinch the Division 2 title with one game to spare, winning their last 14 games in a row.

All associated with the club are extremely proud of their accomplishments.

Trevor Bardoe the clubs secretary works hard to run a very stable and loyal club. The club now look forward to the challenges of next season.

The Houses on the Hill Part 5

No 9 Powder Cottages

William Smith 22 and his wife Ellen 29 occupied this house in 1891 and as stated before, Ellen was the daughter of George and Phyllis Barnden. William was a fitter and turner and Ellen was a dressmaker. The couple would appear to have been childless, but in 1891 Maud Barnden, aged 7 was living with them and described as their niece. I am not sure whose daughter Maude Barnden was, but by 1901 she had moved up to West Ham where she was a servant in the household of Frederick Stern, a solicitor.

By 1901 William and Ellen Smith had moved up to No. 5 where Ellen died in 1910, being buried at Stone Cemetery.

William Austin, 32, (a factory worker) his wife Louisa 32 and their daughter Ellen Louise, had moved into No 9 by 1901. William was part of the large Austin family, his father John living at No 14. William and his wife Louisa (nee Taylor) had married in the West Ham area in 1898. As well as Ellen Louise, they went on to have another four children at least, William Joseph 1901, Lydia Mary 1904, John Henry 1905, and Emily Florence 1908.

The eldest child Ellen Louise Austin married Thomas Joseph Beesley in 1926 at Stone Church when her address was given as Post Office Cottages Bean. Ellen was 94 when she died in 1994 and was buried at Stone Cemetery.

William Joseph Austin married Edith Hilda Jones in 1941 in Swanscombe when his address was given as 4 Hope Cottages, Bean. Lydia Mary Austin died unmarried in 1993 at the same address. John Henry Austin died in 1970. Emily Florence Austin died aged 7 in 1915

Of the parents, mother Louisa died in 1947 and father William in 1954, both at 4 Hope Cottages, Bean. Emily Florence was buried in the same grave as her parents, and the ashes of both Ellen Louise and Lydia Mary were assigned to the same plot.

Part 6 will be in the September 2012 edition.

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Bean's Scouts, Cubs and Beavers.

Over the weekend of 24/25th March the Scout section (aged 10-14) slept out doors for the night under cardboard and plastic sheeting to experience what homeless people go through on a daily basis. It was so cold that by 3am we had woken the intrepid youngsters and put them into tents for their own safety, to avoid hypothermia.

Over the weekend 21/22nd April several of the Scout section joined with the public to help with Exercise Rambler which was run by KCC in conjunction with the emergency services and on Sunday the group attended St Georges Day Parade in Dartford Park with about 600 other scouting people as well as the Guides and Brownies.

The cubs (8-10½ yrs) set off to camp on the weekend 27-29th April at Frylands Wood Camp Site where they were hosting their own mini silly Olympics and having a cook-off against the adults.

The Beaver section is looking for new members to join their new leader, Heidi, at the new time of 5-6 pm. This section is the youngest section of the group and like the others is open to boys and girls.

All groups meet on Wednesday evening at Bean Youth and Community Centre. If you want to know more turn up on a Wednesday evening or check out www.beanscouting.org.uk

Meeting times are:

5 - 6pm for Beavers, 6 - 7.30pm for Cubs and 7.45 - 9.30pm for Scouts.

We will be bag packing on July 7th at Asda Greenhithe to raise money towards the groups costs and also more equipment for the Scout section's week long summer camp.

Naomi

Friends of Beacon Wood

We are a newly formed group of local residents. Our aims and objectives are to protect the preservation and encourage a greater recreational use by the public of the Beacon Wood Park. Raise funding to enhance areas of the park. (Car park, pathways, and picnic area) these are some of our ideas.

At present the friends group has been involved in the wood chip pathways, opening and closing the park, and holding events in the woodland and the community centre.

As you can see the Easter Egg Hunt went well. This is a beautiful green space that we want everyone to enjoy for many years. We are always looking for new members, we are friendly and all are made to feel welcome.

For more information contact the Friends of Beacon Wood.

Debbie Woodger 01322 384848

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Live music from 6.00 pm

Bring your picnic - Bar, BBQ hot dogs, & ice creams available

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Lauren Withey MCFHP MAFHP
 Foot Health Professional

Frances Searles Dip. Hyp
 Hypnotherapist

Bella Perry DipCFHP
 Foot Health Professional

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www.villageosteopath.co.uk

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 The Village Osteopathic Clinic - Bean - The Old School House, School Lane, Bean, Dartford, Kent DA2 8AL

The Residents Association have been investigating this issue and the current appreciation is laid out below.

There is some evidence to show that N0₂ is principally produced by traffic on the A2 and magnified by vehicles going to and from Bluewater. Small diesel engined cars are said to be the main source. Only some of the houses at Ightham and Hope Cottages very close to the A2 are in a designated Air Quality Management Area (AQMA). Other parts of Dartford, Kent and the UK also suffer from this problem.

DBC asserts that the Highways Agency is the authority responsible for direct action to reduce pollution derived from on the A2. Kent County Council (KCC) are responsible for the non-trunk local roads.

Alternatively, it might be that the number of vehicles, and not congestion at the junction, are the major cause.

The UK is in breach of these rules and will be surcharged unless another official delay is permitted. In September 2011, Defra have said that the UK submitted air quality plans to the European Commission. The submission set out how NO₂ limits will be met. The European Commission (EC) has to respond by July 2012 and we will keep a keen look out for their decision.

Meanwhile, one of our MEPs, Keith Taylor, has lobbied the UK Health and Transport ministers drawing their attention to the health risks associated with pollution from road traffic. Neither of the ministerial replies showed that specific plans were in hand to reduce pollution levels. He has also tackled the EC Commissioner for the Environment and on 31 January he entered a complaint with the Secretary General of the EC against UK for infringements of EU air quality law. His contention is that the UK has allowed safe

Poor air quality in Milan led to roads being closed for 10 consecutive hours on Sundays if limits are exceeded on 12 consecutive days.

Overall, all parties agree that high levels of NO₂ can be a health hazard. This is a technically difficult problem to solve with no agreed viable plan.

All authorities consulted appear to be passing the buck and pleading shortage of money. To date, our requests for action to improve air quality and reduce traffic noise have fallen on stony ground but we will continue to harass those who ought to be taking action on our behalf.

**The magazine is delivered to
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When replying to an advert please mention the Bean's Talk

BEAN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION MEETINGS are held on the FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH (Excluding Bank Holidays).

The meetings start at 8.15 pm.

In the Bean Community Centre.

All residents of Bean are welcome to attend.

**Check the notice board outside the Post Office
for notice of guest speakers.**

VILLAGE ACTIVITIES and USEFUL NUMBERS.

The Bean Village web site and e-mail address are on the front cover.

Phone Numbers 01474 unless shown otherwise.

POLICE 999

Non emergency calls to Maidstone 101

Neighbourhood Police Officer - Tony Quilter

New Number 07870 252 387

Community Warden.

Mobile 07811 271252

Community Warden Kim Hill

(Control Centre)



01732 885712

Crime Stoppers



800 555 111

Hall Bookings

Tuesday 4.00 - 7.30pm.

Dance fever

Elaine Coombs



703239

Tuesday 8.15 - 9.05pm.

ZUMBA Fitness

Jo Regan



07927 196307

Wednesday 2.30 pm.

Young at Heart

Jess



07746 082182

Wednesday 5.00 - 6.00pm.

Beavers

Contact the committee

Wednesday 6.00 - 7.30pm.

Cubs

Neil Warburton



707382

Wednesday 7.45 - 9.30pm.

Scouts

Neil Warburton



707382

Thursday 5.15 - 6.45pm.

Brownies

Neil Warburton



707382

Sunday 10.00 - 11.00am.

St. Nicholas Church, Don White

Jannette Williams



01322 381661



705430

For special services - see the church notice board located at the front of the car park at the Community Centre.

Mon - Fri 9.15 - 12.00 noon. Play School

Allison Barrass



07771864937

Mobile Library

Black Horse 4.05 to 4.25pm.

Beacon Drive (Lower end) 4.30 to 4.45pm.

The service is on a Monday at the stopping points and times shown.

Doctors

Dr. Somasegaram Bean Surgery, High St. Bean.



707236

Dr. Langley Beacon Drive, Bean



708672

Church St. Nicholas Southfleet Serving Bean, Betsham, New Barn and Southfleet.

The Rector is The Rev David Houston



833252

Bean Residents Association

Bean Residents Association meets on the First Monday of the month at 8.15pm. in the Bean Community Centre. All Bean residents are welcome to attend.

Bean Parish Council.

E-mail Beanparishcouncil@btinternet.com

Bean Parish Council meet on the second Monday of the month at 7pm. In the

Bean Community Centre. All Bean residents are welcome to attend.



832999

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BEAN'S TALK is published by the BEAN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Correspondence to The Secretary, Linda Collins, 26 Turner Road, Bean, DA2 8BA.

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Unit 1, The Old Powder Mill, Powder Mill Lane, DA1 1NT. Tel: 01322 288627