

Newsletter of The Bean Residents Association

Our 51st Year

**December
4 / 16**

BEAN'S TALK

Issued free to every
Household in Bean.

Web site: www.beanvillage.org.uk

E-mail beanra@waitrose.com

We welcome all 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 Residents Association meeting will be held in the
Community Centre on Monday 5th December**

Septembers Bean RA AGM Pages 2 - 5

University of the 3rd Age Page 9

Church news see page 12

Archers Cottages Page 15

Kent Association for The Blind Page 17

Ebbfleet Development Corporation Page 19

Crime Figures for June and July

To contact the editor; e-mail: thebeanstalk02@gmail.com
Telephone 01474 703129 TO Be Announced As Moving.

**THE COPY DATE FOR THE March 2017
BEAN'S TALK is MONDAY February 1st**

Common abbreviations used in the newsletter

KCC Kent County Council

KHS Kent Highway services

Cllr. Councillor

NPM Neighbourhood Panel Meeting

CLG Dept. for Communities and Local Governments. **RA** Residents Association

DBC. Dartford Borough Council

PCSO Police Community Support Officer

Information from the, September's AGM:

25 people attended:

Chairman's report:

- We were saddened to hear that the Chair of Bean PC, Alison Sakellariou, had died on 7th January 2016. She had done much to encourage the Parish and Residents Association to work together.
- Joint Bean RA and BPC supported presentations have included Bluewater, Paramount and Planning Inspectorate, Save Swanscombe Peninsular and PCSO Ruth Webb, which have been informative and useful.

Planning Application.

The Application of most concern is, of course, that for a permanent site for travelling show people on land in Drudgeon Farm. In November, 2015. DBC Planning Department was considering the application extremely thoroughly. It was refused on 15th July 2016.

Revised Royal Oak Applications were submitted (retaining the pond) for 2 large houses, one using the existing building with the second built in a similar style and creating a passing place in School Lane. We commented on a new application to extend and convert the Royal Oak to a large 4 bed house. A short passing place has been added.

Bean PC and RA were unsuccessful in attempting to have Bean Triangle excluded from the perimeters of both Ebbsfleet Garden City and London Paramount plans. Both have an interest in the Bean interchange improvement. It has allowed us to participate in their events and attend the Ebbsfleet Development Corporation Board and Planning Committee and regularly submit questions.

- Ken Jeavons wrote our Village Design Statement. It was presented to BPC who approved it being submitted to DBC. DBC suggest some changes and we have recently asked again for advice on funding its completion.
- The Residents Association pushed Openreach/BT to finish the installation of Fibre Optic cables to Bean to give residents a decent broadband speed. In October, 2015 it became available, at extra cost, to most Bean homes on the Longfield exchange.
- We and Bean PC met Bluewater and KCC regarding traffic queues in Roman Road and across Bean Bridge. We await the results of KCC's study (paid for by Bluewater) of how signing and road markings might help in the short term as major Works are not due for completion until 2022 at best. For 3 years the traffic system at Christmas/New Year has been tweaked, but remains a problem. We met Highways England(HE) in Jan 2016. HE apologised for delays in a full e/b closure of the A2 over the Easter 2016 weekend. Our ongoing fight to get the air quality improved continues to be vexatious; it seems that both central and local government assume that this will come about due to improvement in car technology!
- Parking continues to be a problem in School Lane and Southfleet Road at school drop-off and pick-up times. Both Beacon Drive and Bramble Avenue are reduced to single lane by parked vehicles much of the time. Together with Bean PC we have sought solutions to lorry parking in Stonewood. Bean RA and Bean PC are working together to the benefit of the community.

Treasurer's statement:

We have made a small profit this year. Thanks to Bill Headde for all his hard work in getting the adverts. I also thank Colin Smith for auditing the accounts.

Secretary's report:

Items of Correspondence:

Letters/eMails sent in from April 2015 to March 2016 = 433

Letters/eMails sent April 2016 to 31 August 2016 = 140

Total = 573 in 17 months

Ashley's Top 10

The 'Top Ten' Topics Apr 2015 to Mar 2016 were-

1. Ebbsfleet Garden City - 87
2. Paramount Entertainment Resort - 82
3. Highways England - 47
4. Bean PC & Beacon Wood Country Park - 31
5. Drudgeon Farm Showmen Travellers Application - 25
6. BeansTalk and Bean History - 22
7. Dartford Borough Council - 20
8. Kent County Council - 18
9. Royal Oak - 12
10. Beacon Drive/Drudgeon Way application & conditions - 10

- The year also featured 8 presentations at Special Meetings, and 18 Attendance at External Meetings.

Press:

Some meeting and event notices had been pasted on StreetLife by Russel Joyce.

Paramount:

Duncan and Linda attended the 1st Community Liaison Group meeting on 21st July. The next meeting will be in October - date to be confirmed.

Highways England (HE):

Plans won't solve all the problems for Bean, because of Bluewater peaks. The current HE programme is to make a presentation of Options to RA and PC later this year.

Bluewater:

20% expansion plan. Land Securities will attend a Special RA Meeting about the plans.

Bean Parish Council:

- Roof of the Hall has been covered with a rubber coating, as well as the flat roof.
- Artificial grass to be laid at rear, plus a new fence.
- New hand driers in the toilets
- Getting a new website, but unable to use it at present.

Country Park:

To arrange a meeting to discuss what to do after not getting Heritage Lottery Funding.

Reported Crimes:

Between 2015 and 2016 there were 207 reported crimes in Bean.
Hopefully we may get our own designated PC.

Election of Committee:

It was proposed and agreed that the Committee be re-elected 'en bloc'.
Keith Burgin would replace Bill Headde as Editor.

New Committee for 2016-2017:

<u>Duncan Wood (Chair)</u>	<u>Vice Chair (Vacant)</u>
<u>Linda Collins (Hon Sec)</u>	<u>Ashley Johnson (Asst Sec)</u>
<u>Irene Luker (Treasurer)</u>	<u>Keith Burgin (Editor)</u>
<u>Russell Joyce (Press Officer)</u>	<u>George Stillwell</u>
<u>Mick Parsons</u>	<u>Mr E Bishop</u>
<u>David Tweedie</u>	<u>Martin Nicholls</u>
<u>Neal Fuller</u>	<u>Chris Porcas</u>
<u>Chris Baker</u>	<u>Celia Dennison</u>
<u>David Oldcorn</u>	<u>Ken Jeavons</u>
<u>Simon Hancock</u>	<u>K Puttock</u>



BEAN ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

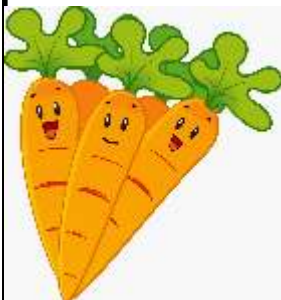
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A Huge thank you!

The Bean Bus has now got a new battery and terminal connectors, due to the two generous donations from the Black Horse public house and the players of the Bonus Ball. All donations are gratefully received and are put to good use keeping the bus in good condition and on this occasion ready for the winter months ahead.

Colin Smith has also reiterated his request for people to become involved with driving the bus, all you need is to be under the age of 70 years; hold a standard car driving licence that is clean and have held it for more than two years. Due to health problems Colin is unsure how long he will be able to continue to drive and is already unable to drive during the night time. Colin is also approaching the time when the insurance will no longer support him driving the Bus, so help is required to keep the service going, you may not use it but there are many who rely on the Bean Community Bus for many reasons, and we now need a pool of volunteers to help drive it or we risk losing it all together. For further information please contact Colin on 01474 832 793

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University of the Third Age: - Meopham branch

"I was a little daunted about the retirement as I thought I would miss my work and my colleagues ...but since I joined the U3A I haven't looked back"
Sally

The University of the Third Age (U3A) is a national and international organisation for those no longer in full time employment. The Meopham branch opened in July 2015 and it has already attracted over 300 members from in and around the locale. You do not need to live in Meopham to join Meopham U3A! Monthly meetings, usually with a speaker, are held in the St John the Baptist Church on the second Tuesday of the month from 2pm to 4pm and members also enjoy social activities such as coffee mornings, pub lunches, outings and theatre trips.

However, at the heart of every U3A branch are the opportunities offered to members to learn and to go on learning in a social context through the "groups". Meopham U3A currently has 38 groups and their scope ranges from gardening to golf; music to money ; walking to wine appreciation ; and current affairs to computing; to name just a very few. The U3A philosophy is not about emulating Adult Ed by hiring a tutor, but rather works with the principal that that all members of a group are learning together and from each other. Once you become a member you can join as many groups as you like. New groups are starting all the time and you could even set one up if your particular passion is not yet covered.

Research suggests that being involved socially with others, making new friends and learning new skills really do support a happier, healthier and more fulfilling retirement. So what are you waiting for?

If you are interested in joining Meopham U3A please visit our website where you will find all you need including membership details, details of the groups, the social events and much, much more. The address is www.u3asites.org.uk/meopham

Visitors are very welcome to come along to one of our monthly members meetings or a coffee morning where you can find out more about the branch and meet with other members. Details of both the meeting and the coffee morning programme can be found on our website.

Membership forms can also be requested by email from:-
memsecmeopu3a@gmail.com

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St Nicholas at Bean



It is time for another report on what has been going on in your village at St. Nicholas at Bean and look forward to a busy December once again.

Your charitable giving this year has been absolutely wonderful. Not only the Woollie collection but also the Shoe boxes. As I write there are just three short of ONE Hundred with one week to go. I am sure that they will be very well received when they reach their destination. We have been informed that these will be despatched to Maldova in time for Christmas. Thanks to all who have contributed in any way to these deserving causes.

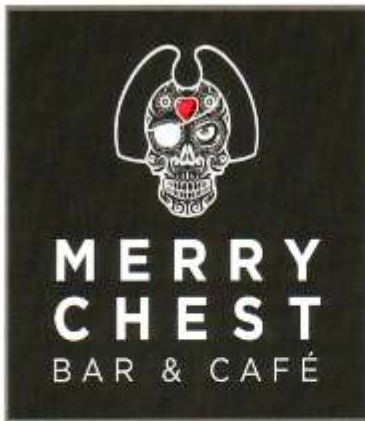
We will be holding our annual Toy Service on the 4th December at 10 o'clock in the Village Hall. We would welcome gifts of toys together with a piece of wrapping paper. The toys will be taken to the Ellenor for distribution for the children in need in the area. Another very worthy cause.

We have been invited once again to share our Christmas Carol service with Bean Primary School. This will take place on 11th December at 6.00pm in the **SCHOOL HALL**. We are most grateful to the Headteacher for inviting us.

The Christmas service of Holy Communion will be held on Sunday 18th December in the Village Hall at 10 o'clock. All are welcome to join us for this very special service.

The Fellowship of Bean Church wish you all a very Happy and peaceful Christmas. If you have not worshipped with us on a Sunday Morning at 10 o'clock then give us a try in the New Year. You would find a very warm and friendly welcome.

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BEAN & EBBSFLEET JUNCTIONS IMPROVEMENTS UPDATES FROM HIGHWAYS ENGLAND (HE)

On 14th Oct 2016, HE issued a Press Notice saying the A2 Bean & Ebbsfleet junctions were among 7 schemes in SE England to go out to Public Consultation **soon**. One is described as "Improvements to junctions on the A2 near Bluewater to enable major developments in the vicinity of Ebbsfleet". "A display of options will launch in January".
The exact date has yet to be decided.

10 Archers Cottages

Again This house was inhabited over the 1901/1011 period by one family. Percy Williams, Born in 1874 in Darenth, lived here with his wife Edith Agnes Talmage , born 1877 in Stone. Percy was a labourer in the Powder Mill. They were married at Stone on 15th April 1899 Percy was living at Marden Farm, Gravesend and Edith was living at Invictor Road Stone. Their fathers were John Edward Williams and John Talmage. They had two children, Johnborn 1900 and Edward born 1903, both in Bean. By the 1911 census Percy was a timekeeper at the Gunpowder works, and Edith was a laundress. Then they disappear and I have no idea where they went. Do you?

No 11 Archers Cottages

In 1901 George Upton and his family were living at No. 11. George seems to have been a Beanite through and through as he was baptised at Stone on the 13 January 1873, privately, the son of John and Ellen Upton (formerly Hollands). In 1861 John and Ellen were living at Old Bean, then 1871 Upper Bean Carters Cottage, 1881 and 1891 Bean Lane, near the Black Horse. On 14 March 1896 George had married Eliza Ann Howard at Stone Church. She was the daughter of Samuel Howard and she gave her address as Stonewood although in the 1891 census she was living at Betsham with her family. She was a field worker as were most of the women in her family. By 1901 they had two children, Beatrice May born 1897 and Percy William born 1900. The Stone Cemetery records that Sarah Ann Upton a labourer's child of 1 month of 11 Archers Cottages Bean was buried there on the 28 Dec 1904. George and Ellen were still at No 11 in 1911 although their family had now grown. Eliza Ann recorded that she had had eight children, five of whom had survived, and she recorded the names of her dead children. The enumerator in his greater wisdom and crossed them all out. Beatrice and Percy had been joined by their siblings, Alice, Frederick and Edith, the last being ten days old. Both George and Eliza recorded that they did farm work. In 1901 sharing their house was Clara Goodchild, whose husband William Thomas Goodchild had died the previous year aged 32. She and her four young children shared the house with George and his family, but by 1911 she had moved down to Gravesend. This family of seven had three rooms to live in at No. 11. In another room was their lodger, Isaac Beerling, then 74, widowed. Isaac had been living in Sandwich with his family in 1901. He was buried at Stone Cemetery on 7 March 1914 aged 77, still living at 11 High Street Bean. Back to George and Eliza — she was buried on 4 Feb 1932 in Stone Cemetery, and George was buried at Stone with her on 11 January 1951, although at the time he was living at 38 Mead Road Gravesend. Their son Percy William Upton married Ada Frances Bushell in 1923 and they had a son. Percy was buried at Stone Cemetery on the 29 May 1959 but then it gave his address as 3 High Street Bean.

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Kent Association for the Blind

We would be most grateful if you could include a few words about two brilliant sporting events that will raise vitally needed funds for Kent Association for the Blind. We thought your readers would love to hear about how they can take part.

The first you may never have heard of and is called 'The Virtual Cycle Ride' and is a 24-mile cycle ride (on a route of your choosing over as many days as you want). You can take part as an individual or as a team, on a static bike at the gym, or outside in the park. The second is much more well-known: The London Marathon. We have several bond places that we can offer to interested runners for Team KAB.

So if there are any budding runners or cyclists out there, please visit the website or contact Amy: amy.vdw@kab.org.uk 01622 691357 Please see more information below, and if you have any questions or queries, please don't hesitate to let me know.

MARATHON RUNNERS WANTED TO RAISE MONEY FOR KENT ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

Kent Association for the Blind are looking for people to take part in the 2017 London Marathon and raise vital funds for the charity.

By taking part in this event you are doing something amazing for our charity; not only raising awareness of sight loss but also raising much needed funds for us to be able to continue our work supporting visually impaired people in the local area. The fundraising team is here to support you meet your pledge amount and can offer you fundraising ideas, personalised materials and resources. In the new year we will be organising a runners' night at our Sight Centre in Maidstone which is a great opportunity to learn more about our work and meet the other runners on Team KAB.

Kent Association for the Blind supports visually impaired people to live independent lives. We work with people of all ages from toddlers and teenagers right through to people in their nineties and beyond. KAB offers a range of services including mobility training, a digital Talking News service, advice and guidance and courses in Assistive Technology. We provide an entirely bespoke service which is tailored to the individual's needs. We support over 11,000 people across the region and last year we received 2,450 new referrals to our service.



Stephen P. Gay

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EBBSFLEET DEVELOPMENT **CORPORATION (EDC)**

On 1st October 2016 EDC published a 130-page Draft Report called "Ebbsfleet Implementation Framework". This includes a Vision of the Garden City in 2035.

Although Bean Triangle is within the Garden City boundary, the only references to it are: -

Page 104: "Bean Triangle-protected green belt with opportunity for landscape enhancements".

Page 105 "- Bean Triangle is outside of the Ebbsfleet Quarry area. This area lies to the south-west of the site between Watling Street and A2. It contains a range of existing uses and properties including a number of homes. It is green belt land, separated from the adjacent Eastern Quarry Strategic site by the A2 eastbound slip-road. Currently there are no further development initiatives on Bean Triangle."

At the monthly EDC Board Meeting on 19th October, Paul Spooner, Interim CEO, said, "It is the intention, that following endorsement of the document by Dartford Borough Council, Gravesham Borough Council and Kent County Council, the EDC Planning Committee and its Officers will consider the Implementation Framework when making planning decisions. The framework will not be a supplementary planning document and so it will not form part of the development plan for the area. The existing local plans will therefore take priority. However, the framework document clearly captures the vision that the EDC and its stakeholder partners have for the area and so it is a material consideration when making a planning decision. ..."

On 28th October, Bean RA submitted 150 comments.



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The homes are available to LA residents, over 55, on DBC housing register and have a care need. They could be another housing association tenant or in private renting. Home owners may be eligible if they are accepted onto DBC housing register.



Scam

KCC are working in partnership with Community Wardens and Citizens Advice to warn residents about scams and to support and advise those targeted.

Scams exploit different vulnerabilities in people to get them to part with their money. Scammers use post, phone, email, internet, adverts or call at the door.

Do not disclose any personal information, such as bank details, no matter who the person claims to be.

Advice and reporting scams

- [Read about types of scam and how to deal](https://www.kent.gov.uk/business/trading-standards/consumer-protection/scams/types-of-scam)
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https://www.kent.gov.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0017/62162/Keep-calm-and-watch-out-for-scams-booklet.pdf
- [For advice and report issues call KCC Trading Standards Citizens Advice consumer service on 03454 04 05 06 Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm.](#)

19 Bean Reported Crimes June 2016

On or near	Category	Outcome status
B255	Criminal damage and arson	Investigation complete; no suspect identified
Bramble Avenue	Anti-social behaviour	
Bramble Avenue	Criminal damage and arson	Investigation complete; no suspect identified
Bramble Avenue	Violence and sexual offences	Unable to prosecute suspect
Foxwood Road	Other theft	Investigation complete; no suspect identified
Highcross Road	Drugs	Offender given a drugs possession warning
Page Close	Anti-social behaviour	
Page Close	Criminal damage and arson	Investigation complete; no suspect identified
Page Close	Vehicle crime	Investigation complete; no suspect identified
Page Close	Violence and sexual offences	Under investigation
Pedestrian Subway	Other theft	Under investigation
Pedestrian Subway	Other theft	Investigation complete; no suspect identified
School Lane	Burglary	Investigation complete; no suspect identified
Shellbank Lane	Anti-social behaviour	
Shellbank Lane	Violence and sexual offences	Unable to prosecute suspect
Stonewood	Other theft	Under investigation
Stonewood	Violence and sexual offences	Under investigation
Turner Road	Anti-social behaviour	
Turner Road	Other theft	Investigation complete; no suspect identified

19 Bean Reported Crimes July 2016

Bean Lane	Criminal damage and arson	Investigation complete; no suspect identified
Bramble Avenue	Anti-social behaviour	
Bramble Avenue	Anti-social behaviour	
Bramble Avenue	Anti-social behaviour	
Bramble Avenue	Anti-social behaviour	
Bramble Avenue	Anti-social behaviour	
Foxwood Road	Other theft	Investigation complete; no suspect identified
Page Close	Vehicle crime	Investigation complete; no suspect identified
Page Close	Vehicle crime	Investigation complete; no suspect identified
Pedestrian Subway	Anti-social behaviour	
Pedestrian Subway	Burglary	Under investigation
Pedestrian Subway	Burglary	Investigation complete; no suspect identified
Pedestrian Subway	Other theft	Under investigation
School Lane	Criminal damage and arson	Investigation complete; no suspect identified
Shellbank Lane	Anti-social behaviour	
Sports/recreation Area	Violence and sexual offences	Under investigation
Stonewood	Burglary	Investigation complete; no suspect identified
Turner Road	Anti-social behaviour	
Turner Road	Vehicle crime	Investigation complete; no suspect identified

VILLAGE ACTIVITIES and USEFUL NUMBERS.

The Bean Village Web site and e-mail addresses are on the front cover.

Phone Numbers 01474 unless shown otherwise.

POLICE 999

Non emergency calls to Maidstone 101

Neighbourhood Police Officer - Tony Quitter

New Number 07811984126

PCSO TBA

TBA

Community Warden. Paul Hassell

Mobile **07813 713285**

Community Warden

(Control Centre)

01732 885712

Crime Stoppers

800 555 111

BYCC Hall Bookings

Bean Parish Council 01474 832 999

Tuesday 4.00 - 7.00pm. Dance fever

Jo Regan 07927 196307

Wednesday 1.30 - 4.00pm. Young at Heart

Contact the committee

Wednesday 6.00 - 7.30pm. Cubs

Neil Warburton 707382

Wednesday 7.45 - 9.30pm. Scouts

Neil Warburton 707382

Thursday 5.00- 6.30pm. Brownies

Janette Williams 07908274153

Friday 4.30 - 5.30pm. Mc Dowall Dance (Ballet)

Sarah Mc Dowall 07940 205295

Sunday 10 - 11.00am. St. Nicholas Church,

Don White 705430

Mon - Fri 9.15 - 12.00 noon. Jumping Beans Pre-School

Allison Barrass 07771864937

Doctors

Swanscombe and Bean Partnership

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

Sunday Service is held in the Community Centre at 10am

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@btintenet.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

Oasis Counselling Centre

01322 294430 Free counselling

for bereavement and help for those affected by suicide, pregnancy, crisis and post abortion, support for ex-offenders, advice and support for job-seekers, those affected by domestic violence, those in distress, befriending scheme, and parenting classes.

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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