

Newsletter of The Bean Residents Association

Our 52nd Year of Publication

December
4/17

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.

Merry Christmas From the Bean Residents Association

**Next Residents Association Meeting
to be held on the 4th December in
the Community Centre with Special
Meeting's with both the Police at
7.30pm and Ebbsfleet Development
Corporation at 8:15pm**



August Special meeting with police page 8

Church news see page 13

Media interest in Bean triangle page 18

The Beautiful Ladies of Bean page 22

Final Archer cottages page 25

To contact the editor; e-mail: thebeanstalk02@gmail.com
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**THE COPY DATE FOR THE March 2018
BEAN'S TALK is the 1st February 2018**

Common abbreviations used in the newsletter

KCC Kent County Council

Cllr. Councillor

DCLG Dept. for Communities and Local Government.

DBC Dartford Borough Council

KHS Kent Highway services

HE Highways England

RA Residents Association

PCSO Police Community Support Officer

Some items of interest from the BRA meeting held in 3rd July & 7th August

Secretary's report:

Ashley Johnson (Assistant Secretary), reported that there had been 43 items of correspondence on 12 topics since the previous meeting:

- 1 x Highways England
- 4 x Paramount (now London Entertainment Resort)
- 3 x Northfleet Peninsular Group
- 9 x DBC
- 6 x BPC & Country Park
- 2 x Bean Triangle
- 9 x EDC
- 1 x Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE)
- 2 x Bluewater
- 1 x Meeting Notices
- 4 x BD/DW
- 1 x Royal Oak

Updates:

Paramount: Will now be called the London Entertainment Resort (LER). A planning application was due to be submitted on 23rd November 2017. Formal consultations must be held prior to this. The Planning Inspector has insisted that time is allowed to consider any comments made at the consultations. LER have so far refused to amend their original red line enclosing land that may be required for highway construction.

Ebbfleet Development Corporation - Bean Triangle Environmental Project:

Duncan Wood, Linda Collins, Celia Denison and Ashley Johnson attended a meeting with EDC on 27th June 2017.

Keith Burgin attended for BPC and Dave Hammock for DBC and BPC.

- Two documents were tabled; Terms of Reference and the other was an aerial view of the Bean Triangle with Land Ownerships. Changes were suggested to the ToR.
- At some point EDC will be contacting land owners.
- Next meeting's are 9th January and 13th March 2018.

Beacon Drive/Drudgeon Way:

- Application to increase from 5 to 6 houses awaits DBC decision

KCC road signs and markings; short-term Works at Bean Interchange:

- Bluewater will contribute to cost. KCC are to advise their programme.
-

Highways England:

- Bean Interchange - consultation late this year, with DCO application in 2018.

Parish Council:

- Beacon Wood Steering Group looking into ways for different funding schemes.
- Royal Oak pond outcome is in the hands of DBC.
- The rescue of some ducklings from the dry pond was reported to DBC on 6-Feb-17.
- KCC Ecological Advice Service were critical of Pond Management proposals.
- Bats have been found in trees at the bottom of the Horse Sanctuary.

AOB:

Community Bus:

- More drivers are urgently needed.

9 Reported Crime Figures for Bean - April 2017: (lowest for 2 years)

- 1 x B255 - Drugs
- 1 x Bramble Avenue - Vehicle crime
- 1 x Drudgeon Way - Anti-social behaviour

- 1 x Sandbanks Hill - Burglary
- 1 x Sandy Lane - Vehicle crime
- 1 x Shellbank Lane - Violence & sexual behaviour
- 1 x Sports/Recreation Area - Vehicle crime
- 1 x The Thrift - Burglary
- 1 x Turner Road - Anti-social behaviour

Refuse Collections

- Problems continue with pick-ups still being late in parts of Bean.
- Possibly vehicles unable to access Pepperhill Tip to offload refuse.
- Still awaiting a reply from Dave Thomas re problems. [Received 4-Jul-17]
- Complaint from resident about bins being left a long way from home.

Lorry parking and skips:

- Lorry still parked on Amenity Land Bramble Avenue - DBC dealing with matter.
- Skips for business use on properties. Ask DBC Planning if it needs permission.

Drains:

- Broken drain surround opposite Black Horse - has been reported.
- Clogged drains in High Street - only the highest one has been cleared, as yet.

BRA August 2017

Secretary's report:

Ashley Johnson (Assistant Secretary) reported that there had been 51 items of correspondence on 12 topics since the previous meeting:

- 4 x Police
- 1 x KCC
- 13 x Paramount
- 2 x Northfleet Objectors/ Peninsula Management Group
- 1 x Beanstalk & History
- 2 x BPC & Country Park
- 4 x Bean Triangle
- 12 x EDC

- 1 x CPRE
- 1 x Bluewater
- 1 x Meeting Notices

Pond:

Information about Pond given to new Planning Officer - Patricia Coyle. KCC Ecological Officer also upset regarding state of the pond. Wildlife has had to be removed as there is no place for them - pond only a small muddy puddle when it rains. Developers can be fined up to £20k for breaches of planning conditions.

Ashwood Place:

DBC decided on 24th May 2017 that a building at back of the new house does not require Planning Permission, but must not encroach on the approved four parking spaces

EDC:

Master Plan - now want Market Place area to be near Bluewater, not in centre of development as first planned and agreed with DBC.

Bluewater:

Applications for Events – Summer Beach area near House of Fraser. Xmas Grotto and event tent proposed. Bean RA have suggested opening be from 10am to help with traffic.

First detailed application for West Village shows deeper shops restrict lorry delivery area.

Bean Triangle Environmental Improvement Project:

Meeting with EDC arranged for 13th September 2017 at 11am in Merry Chest Cafe.

LRCH:

Notices put up by Savills about unregistered land in the Bean Triangle. Includes side and rear access to Ightham Cottages. Matter has been raised on Radio Kent and in local newspapers as to why London Resort Company Holdings (LRCH) are interested in properties in the Bean Triangle. Duncan and Ashley interviewed for Radio Kent. No

satisfactory answer has yet been given by Humphrey Percy, Chief Executive of LRCH.

Parish Council & Country Park:

Nothing regarding the Country Park. No Parish Council meeting in August.

Keith Burgin is looking into different types of defibrillators to be provided for Public use.

Crime figures for May 2017:

16 reported crimes for May 2017:

- 1 x B255 Ightham Cotts - Anti-social behaviour
- 1 x B255 Hope Cotts - Other theft
- 1 x Beacon Drive - Anti-social behaviour
- 5 x Bramble Avenue - Anti-social behaviour
- 3 x Drudgeon Way - Burglary (3 separate addresses)
- 1 x Foxwood Road - Criminal damage & arson
- 1 x Sandbanks Hill - Other Theft
- 1 x Sandy Lane (at or near Subway) - Other theft (car keys at café?)
- 1 x School Lane - other theft
- 1 x The Thrift - anti-social behaviour

AOB:

- Concrete lorry Stonewood - Cllr Hammock said DBC Housing had inspected.
- Lorry parked on DBC Amenity Land in Bramble Avenue has been removed.
- Skips in residential areas – Matter to be discussed with DBC Planning.
- Extra road markings at 3-Roundabouts - waiting for KCC to decide when it can be done without traffic disruption. Will raise matter again with Bluewater/KCC.
- Unfair situation where Local Government Ombudsman cannot deal with decisions by Council Housing Officers and Housing Ombudsman can only deal with complaints from Council Tenants, not home-owners. To contact MP regarding the matter.

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Special Meeting with the Police 7th August 2017

Those present welcomed Sgt Crompton and PC Quilter.

PC Quilter said that there had been 6 reported crimes in July 2017:

- 1 x Burglary/Theft at School
- 1 x Exposure - A streaker was reported running into a field in Shellbank Lane
- 1 x Road Rage - criminal damage
- 2 x Domestic Assault
- 1 x Burglary - Stonewood - vase broken nothing stolen
- There had been 3 reported crimes so far for August 2017:
 - 2 x Criminal damage in Stonewood
 - 1 x Page Close broken window
- Anti-social behaviour reported in Stonewood. DBC to visit addresses regarding matter.
- Less gas canister now in Stonewood, but now appearing close to Hope Cottages - PC Quilter to check up on matter.
- Community Wardens inform the police on matters and vice-versa. PC Quilter hopes to attend the next Community Warden surgery.
- Motor cyclists have been reported riding without helmets and doing 'wheelies' around the village. Need number plate registration.
- The Travellers illegally parked in ASDA carpark in Greenhithe were evicted. Some vehicles noted leaving without number plates; may have been intentional.
- There is a MoU between Police and DBC re trespassing and officers wear cameras.
- Reported that vehicles parking too close to drop kerb in Ashwood Place blocking view of those living in other properties in Ashwood Place wishing to get off their driveways. Neighbour's have been asked not to park so close, because one has already been involved in a RTA because of this. Vehicles using road going too fast.
- Suggested that residents take part in Speedwatch. 4 people needed - issued with camera and high-viz jackets. A while ago, several residents trained, but not used.
- Concerns were raised of an incident of horses being let out - informed that it is not a crime, however, it is a crime if damage is made to gate enabling the animals to get out.

- Incident regarding burglary - door smashed. Police did not arrive same day - victim was vulnerable with no means of securing the property. Perhaps call-taker unaware?
- Fly-tipping - report to DBC for small amount, Environment Agency if large. Reminded not to touch any items as it is a crime scene.
- Lorries still trying to get through Bean to the Fruit Depot despite the number of signs informing them of width restrictions on the roads out of the village.
- Both Sgt Compton and PC Quilter were thanked for attending and were reminded that the next NPM Meeting would be held on Monday 4th December 2017 at 7.30pm.

Would you like to use the Beanstalk to advertise yourself or your service? We deliver to all properties in Bean four times a year. March, June, September and December.

Please contact the editor using the details listed on the front of this issue if you wish to place an advertisement

Full Page	£35:00
2/3 Page	£29:00
1½ Page	£24:00
1/3 Page	£18:00
1/4 Page	£12:00

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St Nicholas at Bean



Where on earth has the year 2017 gone! By the time you receive your copy through the letter box the Shoe Boxes will be on their way to Eastern Europe. Many thanks to all who gave their time and money to fill one, and also those who provided gifts that could be put into boxes in spite of the Economic Crisis. The joy and happiness they bring to the young people who receive them makes it all worthwhile

This year the Bishop of Rochester is visiting the Parish Church, St. Nicholas, Southfleet of Sunday 3rd December and conducting the service there at the 10.30am . There will NOT be a service that day in the Bean Village Hall. This service will include the collection of toys, which will then be taken to the Ellenor Hospice. They will distribute then to Very sick children or where a member of the family is desperately ill. We ask that your gifts are unwrapped, but with a piece of wrapping paper so that the appropriate toy may be given to the child.

We have been invited once again to share our Christmas Carol service with Bean Primary School. This will take place on **10th December at 6.00pm** in the **SCHOOL HALL**. We are most grateful to the Headteacher for inviting us. Come and join us in singing the popular well known Carols. We hope, as usual on this occasion to fill the hall. Come early to make sure of a seat.

Weather permitting we are hoping to have carol singing around the streets again this year.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

24th Dec 10.00am Communion Bean Village Hall

11.15pm Midnight Communion St Nicholas Church

25th Dec 10.30am Family Service St Nicholas Church

31st Dec 10.00am Family Service Bean Village Hall

The Church Wardens and Bean fellowship wish all of the readers a Blessed Christmas and Peaceful New Year

Don White

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MEDIA & LRCH INTEREST IN BEAN TRIANGLE

Radio Kent Journalist, Jo Burn, fought her way through the traffic chaos on 20-Jul-17 to record an interview with Duncan Wood at Ightham Cottages. It wasn't about the story of the lorry carrying Chocolate Bars that caught fire on the A2 at Bean. It was about Savills unregistered land notices nailed to fences and trees. They work for London Resort Company Holdings (LRCH) who want to know who owns land within their chosen red-line boundary. The threat of compulsory acquisition was first revealed in letters to occupiers on 26-March-2015.

The *Kent Messenger* reported on 28-Jul-17 that, "A series of mysterious posters have appeared in Bean in the past fortnight asking for landowners of several unregistered plots of land to come forward".

On 29-Jul-17 Savills apologised for distress to Ightham Cottages residents, but had to find out.

Radio Kent's breakfast programme on 31st July interviewed Humphrey Percy, the Chief Executive of LRCH. He was asked about notices, a long way from Swanscombe Peninsular. He said they had to know about their neighbours. Ashley Johnson said that the Resort would occupy about 400 acres, whilst the red-line was drawn around 1,355 acres of which 300 were in the Green Belt in Bean and Southfleet Parishes. LRCH said it was for roads.

We said LRCH told the Planning Inspectorate in Oct-2016 that they hoped to 'pull in' the red-line.

LRCH said they wouldn't need all of the land.

We said, the 2015 informal consultation Land Plans showed it as "Land to be acquired".

EBBSFLEET DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Bean RA questions to 18-Oct-17 Board included: -

Question 1: From your regular meetings with Highways England (HE) have you been told that the statutory consultation on the A2 Bean and Ebbsfleet Junction Improvements (A2BE) will commence at the end of January 2018?

Answer: We understand that it is Highways England's intention to commence the Statutory Consultation in January 2018. This is subject to overall progress being maintained by HE.

Question 2: Can EDC ask Highways England to include in the A2 Bean junction improvement the relocation of the eleven Ightham Cottages or do EDC prefer to deal with re-provision as part of the Bean Triangle Environmental Improvement Project or other means?

Answer: EDC has asked HE whether or not they will be including ancillary housing within the A2 DCO (as permitted by the 2016 Act). It has not been included in the proposals to date. Highways England will be providing a response shortly and we will provide a further update when we hear from them. The EDC's proposed master planning of the Bean Triangle will focus on environmental improvements. However, it is intended to also use the exercise to look at deliverable and realistic housing opportunities within the area.



Your Residents Association needs you. We are currently looking for someone to take on the roles of both Treasurer and Vice-Chairman. These are vital roles within the association, especially the treasurer. The role will only require basic knowledge of book keeping and the ability to send out, receive and process invoices.

The residents association do a lot of work on behalf of this community and need your support to continue. If you are able to offer some time come and speak to us at the next meeting (first Monday of the month in the village hall) or contact the editor, full details on the front cover. Use and support us or you risk losing having this great resource.

Parking in Bean.

Some residents have voiced concerns regarding parking within the village, and whether or not emergency vehicles would be able to get through if needed. We would ask all



residents to be considerate when parking their vehicles, not only to other traffic but to other residents using footpaths. People with small children, either walking or in prams and push chairs, are being forced to walk into and along the carriageway, making them feel very vulnerable. Bean also is home to residents who may not be as agile as they once were and find it difficult to

negotiate the chicane of vehicles parked on pavements, or may rely on wheelchairs or mobility scooters.

Please think; before you just leave your vehicle!!!



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The Beautiful Ladies of Bean

AUTUMN IS NEARLY over and our lovely ladies are with us again in their glorious shades of gold and red as I look out of my study window up and down School Lane. Sorry girls, lovely as you all undoubtedly are, its our beautiful oak trees I'm talking about, not you two-legged beauties. Our oaks still parade for us in varying states of progress from green to pure gold, while the elms delicate elms have already performed their dance of the seven veils to reveal their dark and painfully thin limbs that will wave across the road to me until the onset of Spring next year, when they coyly pull on their delicate green shifts and delight us with their merry Grecian dancing in the light shower-bearing breezes of April and May.

What a delight these lovely roadside trees are all the year through. Our School Lane Copse has been threatened by developers before and every time I see anyone wandering up and down the Lane with a clipboard under their arm, I shiver, dreading that the anonymous planners will renege on promises that it will remain part of the Green Belt for the foreseeable future.



We have seen some clever and well-designed 'fill-ins' in Sandy Lane that forms a T-junction with School Lane in the past few years. Have they done with us yet? The last attack on the copse was over twenty-two years ago, when the promise was renewed. That gorgeous lady above opposite my kitchen window was a mere sapling then and we could see the A2 through the developing wood.

Stay with us, lovely ladies for many years yet

JWT

Bean, Sunday 22 Oct 2017

Kent Against Burglary

Most of us lock our homes before going out or going to bed, but what about during the day when most burglaries happen? **Kent Police** top tips to help residents are: -

- Use timer switches on lights and radios to make it look like you're home
- Keep car keys, cash and expensive items safe - out of sight
- Security-mark and photograph important items to help identify them if needed
- Use a safe to store gold jewellery – or, better still, a safety deposit box at your bank.

Dealing with unexpected visitors

- Lock your back doors and windows before answering the front door – thieves often work in pairs, one distracting you at the front door while the other tries the back
- Use your spyhole and chain and ask who they are first.
- Check their identification, even if they have a pre-arranged appointment
- If they're expected and don't have ID, don't let them in
- If they leave you a contact number don't use it as it may be fake. Find the company's number in the phone book, on the internet or on a recent bill instead
- If you need something, close the door until you return
- If in doubt, ask them to leave and come back when a family member or friend can be with you.

For more advice online visit: -

www.kent.police.uk/burglary and
www.kent.police.uk/advice/bogus-callers-and-rogue-traders/

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

16 Archers Cottages

Another family living at Archers Cottages over the 1901/1911 census, William James Lynds an agricultural labourer of Stone, was living with his wife Alice, also born at Stone, three sons who would appear to be his step sons, Christopher Bentley, William Bentley and James Bentley as well as two children who would appear to be his and Alice's, Dorothy Lynds and Daisy Lynds, both born in Stone. He had married Alice Bentley in Stone in 13 July 1895 following the death of her husband George Bentley in 1892. Her maiden name was Cooper and she was the daughter of Thomas Cooper. She and William would have a third daughter, Elizabeth, also born in Bean. Christopher Bentley had left home by the 1911 census but her other two sons, William and James were still at home. Christopher had married the previous year to Agnes Maud Roberts and was living in Lanes End in 1911.

This is the last of the items on Archer Cottages, Our thanks go to June Conway who Sourced the information from the 1901 and 1911 census.

The answers to last editions A FISHY QUIZ

- | | |
|-------------|-----------------|
| 1. Sturgeon | 11. Clown Fish |
| 2. Cod | 12. Shark |
| 3. Skate | 13. Pilot Fish |
| 4. Eel | 14. Flounder |
| 5. Turbot | 15. Trout |
| 6. Jelly | 16. Stickleback |
| 7. Plaice | 17. Angel fish |
| 8. Carp | 18. Haddock |
| 9. Minnow | 19. Whitebait |
| 10. Bass | 20. Sprat |



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Oasis Counselling Service

The service is based at The Vineyard, 24, Market Street, Dartford, DA1 1EZ, telephone number 01322 294430, website address

www.oasiscounsellingservices.co.uk. Oasis Counselling offers clients a professional, quality service. We cover general counselling issues, anger, depression, low self-esteem, self-harm, abuse, bereavement, and relationship issues and more. We also work with couples and families.

We are a charity and need sessions to be funded. A one hour session is valued at £45 each, £60 for couples but we work on a donation basis, depending on the client's ability to pay. For those unable to donate £25 or more, we offer 8 bursary-funded sessions, as the fund allows, encouraging each client to donate at a level enabling them to value the service offered.

VILLAGE ACTIVITIES and USEFUL NUMBERS.

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

POLICE

Emergency calls 999 /112	Non emergency calls	101
Neighbourhood Police Officer	PC Tony Quilter	07811 984126

Dartford Borough Council and Kent Community Wardens

Crime Support Unit DBC	Mark Sailsbury	01322 343434
Community Warden.	Paul Hassell	07813 713285
Community Warden	Control Centre	01732 885712
Crime Stoppers		800 555 111

Bean Village Hall Bookings

	Bean Parish Council	01474 832 999
Tuesday 4:00 - 7:00pm. Dance fever	Jo Regan	07927 196307
Tuesday 7:30 - 8:30pm Zumba	Laura	07731 303925
Wednesday 1:30 - 4:00pm. Young at Heart	Contact the committee	
Wednesday 5:00 - 6:15pm. Cubs	Amanda King	07715 169250
Wednesday 6:30 - 8:00pm. Scouts	Neil Warburton	01474 707382
Thursday 5:00- 6:30pm. Brownies	Janette Williams	07908274153
Thursday 7:30 - 8:30pm Fitsteps	Kay	07751 497716
Friday 4:00 - 6:00pm Elite Academy	James 07730 445624, Natasha	07928 050414
Sunday 10:00 - 11:00am. St. Nicholas Church,	Don White	01474 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	01474 707236
Dr. Bora	Beacon Drive, Bean	01474 708672

Church

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

The Rector post is currently vacant 01474 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 Center. All Bean residents are welcome to attend. 01474 832999

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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