

Meeting Minutes 14th April 2025 – Appendix D

Beech parish council objectives for the financial year 2024-25 – Reviewed April 2025

1. To carry out in full, and in line with Government rules and regulations, all of the statutory duties and functions of Beech parish council. **Objective met.**
2. To hold a parish council meetings in at least 10 calendar months of the year, and to hold council meetings more frequently than monthly where council business so demands. **Objective met.**
3. To provide a forum for public questions prior to each parish council meeting, and to hold an Annual Parish Meeting in March each year. **Objective met.**
4. To review every planning application and planning appeal for which the parish council is a statutory consultee, subject to adequate lead times being given. **Objective met.**
5. To uphold and implement the policies of the Beech Neighbourhood Development Plan, and (if EHDC puts forward a new Local Plan for examination) commence the process of reviewing and updating the NDP. **Objective met.**
6. To consider responding to public consultations when invited to do so by EHDC, HCC and other public bodies. **Objective met.**
7. To broadly maintain the previous financial year's items of regular expenditure, allowing for inflation. **Objective met.**
8. To levy a council tax precept that covers the budgeted regular expenditure, plus a modest contingency amount, so as to avoid the regular expenditure depleting the council's reserves if possible. **Objective met.**
9. To continue operating the village's AutoSpeedWatch camera system and to obtain its approval by Hampshire Constabulary, HCC and EHDC for speeding enforcement in the manner of Community SpeedWatch. Also to pursue with HCC a 20mph zone in Beech if and when HCC policy permits.

AutoSpeedWatch cameras system has continued and there are now cameras in both directions. Continuing to work with the police to obtain approval for speeding enforcement. Currently investigating implementing a 20mph zone in Beech.
10. To complete the implementation of the proposed new on-road footway the full length of Medstead Road and Kings Hill, and subsequently to monitor its effectiveness.

Footway completed and there will be an ongoing review.
11. To fund expenditure on new footway schemes, speed camera initiatives, speed indicator devices and footpath/bridleway improvements from (i) CIL & S106 monies received from EHDC; and (ii) grant monies from other external sources, augmented where necessary by funds from the parish council's reserves earmarked for road safety measures. **Objective met.**
12. To lobby Southeast Water for the implementation, by the end of the financial year, of their proposed scheme for rectifying excessive water pressures within Beech; and to agree with Southeast Water interim measures for repairing leaks resulting from excessive water pressure at no cost to Beech residents. **Objective met.**
13. To agree with HCC a maintenance regime for the drainage grips and ditches on Medstead Road, Kings Hill and Abbey Road. **Objective not met.**

14. To pursue Beech parish council's climate change initiative, principally through education and public participation, with any expenditure on the initiative principally met by participating Beech residents.
Objective not met.
15. To facilitate the provision of fibre-to-the-premises (FTTP) broadband to those parts of the village that do not already enjoy it. **Open reach will apply to EHDC, EHDC haven't received anything yet. Open Reach are proposing 2026.**