

BASILDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Basildon Parish Council held at the Village Hall, Upper Basildon on 5th June 2019

Present: Ms Halina Czajka, Mr Geoff Couchman , Mr Oliver Chadwyck - Healey, Mr David Jones, Ms Elaine Cox, Mr Ian Parsons (Chair) and Robert Greasley (clerk),

Apologies were received from Ms Sarah Barnes

The following members of the public attended the meeting:

Mr Macintyre & Ms Lipska - both for planning.

1 OPEN FORUM

No items were raised.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

3 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 7th May having been circulated to members were declared correct and signed by the Chairman.

4 PLANNING

The following planning applications were reviewed:

19/01030 5A Spring Close - Extension
Parish Council had no objections subject to the views of neighbours

19/01034 Caius Cottage, Aldworth Road - Orangery
Parish Council had no objections subject to the views of neighbours

19/01056 Bethesda, Bethesda Street - Replacement Double Garage
Parish Council had no objections subject to the views of neighbours

Confirmed Decisions:

19/00736 7 Kiln Ride, extension - WBC Approved (PC No Objection)
19/00635 Skew Bridge, strengthening - WBC Approved (PC No Objection)
19/00598 Rushlea, Kiln Corner, extension - WBC Approved (PC No Objection)
18/03281 12 Teneplass, extension - WBC Approved (PC No Objection)

5 REVIEW OF OPEN ACTIONS

Key points of note were as follows:

Three members of the Parish Council will attend SID training.

The clerk will contact highways regarding the traffic speeding and management report which should have been received some weeks ago. Additionally, highways will be asked to re-paint and 'SLOW' signs on roads in the Parish.

A road safety petition was discussed and a number of local groups will be contacted to discuss options.

The 2019/20 library financial request has been received. The Parish Council reviewed the request and voted to approve a grant of £1740 with the cheque being raised next month.

The Parish Council voted unanimously to offer a grant of £250 to the Country Neighbour. The cheque will be raised for the July meeting.

The Chairman confirmed that the Wakemans refurbishment continues as planned.

The issue of parking on Church Lane was discussed with the following points agreed:

The Parish Council voted by majority that it did not wish to financially support any land purchase to aid car parking; it was noted that section 137 money would not be applicable in this instance as any potential purchase would benefit only a fraction of the Parish of Basildon. It was confirmed that the Parish Council had tried numerous avenues in a bid to help affected residents including Beale Park and West Berkshire Council but neither party had been prepared to assist. With these, and other options, exhausted and West Berkshire Council favouring double yellow lines (something that the Parish Council also voted in favour of) then the Parish Council believes that the issue is now between the relevant residents and the District Council to resolve with possible alternative parking needing to be driven by these parties. The clerk confirmed that Alan Law was aware and it is hoped his intervention will bring a resolution. Additionally, the clerk will provide an update to Councillor Barnes.

The Clerk will follow up reported drainage issues in Lower Basildon by contacting West Berkshire Council.

The Clerk confirmed that the Railway Action Group have been thanked for the efforts with regards to softening the appearance of the electrification masts in the Goring Gap.

The clerk will look into the spending limits of Section 137 and report back to the council.

The Parish Council voted in favour of appointing contractors to clean all Parish road signs.

6 FOOTPATHS, HIGHWAYS AND OPEN SPACES

All paths were confirmed as good with no new issues raised over the last month.

7 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

The District Councillor continues to work on local issues.

8 FINANCE

The following cheques were presented to the meeting:

Ch No	PAYEE	PURPOSE	NETT	VAT	TOTAL
					AMNT
			£	£	£
103258	R Greasley	Salary	351.23	0.00	351.23
103259	HMRC	Tax on salary	233.60	0.00	233.60
103260	David Jones	Expenses	14.13	0.00	14.13
103261	West Berkshire Council	Empty Litter Bins	114.81	0.00	114.81
103262	Scofell	Grass Cutting	366.50	73.30	439.80
103263	Opio Ltd	Wakemans Park refurb	550.00	135.67	685.67
103264	Norris & Fisher	Insurance	450.14	0.00	450.14
103265	Will Watts	Hedge cutting	120.00	0.00	120.00
103266	R Greasley	Stamps & Envelopes	21.19	0.00	21.19
103267	ID Parsons	Expenses	9.99	0.00	9.99

The Council accepted cheque numbers 103258-103267 and the ongoing Standing Order to cover litter picking was confirmed.

The clerk confirmed a cancelled cheque for hedge cutting with a fresh one re-issued.

The clerk confirmed to the Parish Council that the Internal Audit is complete with the following minor issues raised:

Councillors should initial invoices as well as the cheque list.

The VAT reclaim should be submitted as soon as possible.

Assets should be confirmed checked within Parish Council minutes.

The clerk confirmed that all three items were accepted and the audit signed off. Councillors were asked to sign invoices from June 2019, the VAT reclaim has been submitted and Asset checks will be declared in future meeting minutes. The Parish Council voted to accept the report and the chairman asked for the Councils thanks to be passed on to the auditor.

The Clerk took the meeting through the external audit and confirmed that all areas reviewed met the required standard or where not applicable. All financial returns were confirmed as correct and the clerk confirmed that community projects should continue to be sought out and supported in order to ensure that the Parish Council does not hold significant reserves. The Council voted unanimously to accept the external audit pack and both the clerk and chairman signed it off.

10 CORRESPONDANCE

Correspondence was received inviting councillors to the Goring Gap Regatta. Where possible, a number of Councillors will attend.

Councillor Barnes has received and written back to a resident regarding speeding.

The Chairman will write to a letter of complaint regarding the outdoor gym.

The Clerk will contact a recycling company who requested a clothes bank for the Parish to confirm that one already exists at the Red Lion Public House.

11 OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

The meeting concluded at 9pm