

BASILDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Basildon Parish Council held at the Village Hall, Upper Basildon on 6th November 2019.

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

Apologies were received from Mr Chadwyck – Healey and Ms Barnes

Mr Owens attended to cover off a planning matter.

1 OPEN FORUM

No issues were raised.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

3 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 3rd October having been circulated to members were declared correct and signed by the Chairman.

4 PLANNING

New applications

19/02621 - 2 Spring Close, Extension

The Parish Council had no objections subject to the views of neighbours.

19/02616 - Greenwood, Ashampstead Road, New Shed

The Parish Council had no objections subject to the views of neighbours.

19/02568 - Site of former Barn House, conditions

These conditions cover the construction of a new garage at the site which the Parish Council reviewed and objected to on the following grounds:

The application represents a significant change to the site and adds to the impression that it is over developed.

The roof line of the proposed building is too high.

19/02385 - Outbuilding at Lower Basildon View, conversion to house

The Parish Council objected on the following grounds:

The proposal is for a new building which will sit outside of the settlement boundary. The Parish Council strongly opposes this and notes that the application is for a dwelling twice the size of the existing outbuilding which it considers unacceptable. It is the Parish Council's belief that the new

building will offer a detrimental view for those on the other side of the Goring gap and will add nothing to the AONB which this plot resides in.

The Council noted that WBC's planning department commented that the previous application (2017) for the development of the outbuilding into a house with the same smaller footprint was considered 'just about acceptable' and was on both a prominent and sensitive site. It is hoped that these comments and observations will be taken into account when a decision is made.

Confirmed decisions

There were two withdrawals:

19/01913 - Tomb Farm - Velux Windows at site

19/02272 - Robin Hill Farm - extension

One Approval was noted:

19/02155 - Basildon Park, repairs to stonework (PC no objection)

5 REVIEW OF OPEN ACTIONS

The Parish Council agreed to roll the football pitch at the recreation ground. The clerk will write to Scofell to arrange.

Concerns were expressed around the construction of a new barn on Blandys Lane which was approved by West Berkshire Council despite Parish Council opposition and its position outside the settlement boundary. The Chairman confirmed that this had been reported to the planning enforcement team at West Berkshire Council.

Councillor Jones confirmed that the library culture survey had been completed and returned.

The Chairman will write to the school regarding a request for new signage to improve traffic in the area.

The Chairman will write to Scofell regarding the purchase of new trees for the Parish.

It was confirmed that the phone box in Lower Basildon had been repaired following further vandalism.

Road markings in the Parish continue to deteriorate and have been followed up again with West Berkshire Council.

Councillor Couchman will write to the Country Neighbour re: the Handybus and the clerk will confirm with the company that it can use noticeboards for leaflets.

6 FOOTPATHS, HIGHWAYS AND OPEN SPACES

Footpaths remain in good condition with no actions required although it was noted that they are gradually getting harder to navigate in places due to recent wet weather.

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		
			£	£	£
103299	R Greasley	Salary	350.83	0.00	350.83
103300	HMRC	Tax on salary	234.00	0.00	234.00
103301	Scofell	Grass Cutting	366.50	73.30	439.80
103302	I Parsons	Phone box Repairs		97.20	0.00 97.20
103303	Royal British Legion	Annual Donation		150.00	0.00 150.00

The Council accepted cheque numbers 103299-103303 and the ongoing Standing Order to cover litter picking was confirmed.

The Clerk confirmed the following:

The VAT returns have been approved and c.£8,500 has been returned to the Parish Council.

CIL Revenue has been received and needs to spent within the next 5 years. The Clerk confirmed that this is unlikely to present a problem.

The latest precept instalment has been received.

The clerk advised the Council to consider projects given the level of funds currently available and the chairman agreed to monthly discussions on this subject going forward.

10 CORRESPONDANCE

None was noted

11 OTHER BUSINESS

None was raised

The meeting concluded at 8:55pm with the next meeting scheduled for the 4th December.