

BASILDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Basildon Parish Council held online on the 4th June 2020.

Present: Mr Couchman, Mr Parsons (Chair), Mr Jones, Ms Barnes, Ms Cox, Ms Czjaka, Mr Chadwyck-Healey and Mr Greasley (clerk),

1 OPEN FORUM

No issues were raised.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were raised.

3 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 6th May having been circulated to members were declared correct and signed by the Chairman.

4 PLANNING

New applications

The following applications were reviewed:

20/01142 Skagen House, Bethesda Street, New Garage & Carport

The Parish Council reviewed the application and objected on the following grounds:

When the application for the house was originally raised in 2016 a garage in front of the property was included and this had to be removed prior to approval being granted. The Parish Council believe the new building will dominate the plot, represents over development and is yet another example of design by stealth within the Parish.

20/01055/56 Walnut Tree Cottage, Blandys Lane, New Outbuilding

The Parish Council reviewed the application and objected on the following grounds:

The forms for the proposal haven't been fully completed and lack detail in places. As a result, the Council were unclear on certain aspects of the plans.

The new building is twice the size of that which it replaces and is more of a new build than the plans suggest.

The effect on the grade II listed Walnut Tree should be followed up by the conservation officer.

Confirmed Decisions

The following decisions were confirmed by West Berkshire Council:

20/00613 & 615. Church Farm, outbuilding conversion (PC and WBC Approved)

20/00578 Robin Hill Farm, extension (PC and WBC Approved)

20/00457 Hadleigh Wood, Bethesda St, Various extensions (PP Objection, WBC Approved following plan amendment)

20/00381 3 Spring Close, extension (PC and WBC Approved)

5 REVIEW OF OPEN ACTIONS

Covid 19 updates for various areas of the village were discussed. No issues were raised.

The Rospa safety report for the two play parks in the Parish has been rereviewed. Councillor Chadwyck-Healey has been given the relevant contractor details and will proceed with quotes.

The Chairman confirmed that a reporting pack for the last year's council activity is almost complete and ready for the website.

The chairman will follow up the clean up of street signs within the Parish and will talk to a contractor regarding the cutting back of encroaching bushes etc. The clerk will contact West Berkshire Council to see if this should fall under their care otherwise the Parish will fund the activity.

The chairman will write to the local MP regarding the 'SLOW' signs on the Pangbourne Road and request assistance in getting these re-painted.

Councillor Czjaka will contact the company who engraved the war memorial (Walkers) regarding a site visit and potential tidy up.

6 FOOTPATHS, HIGHWAYS AND OPEN SPACES

Footpaths continue to be well used and some have been cut back during the last month (footpaths 3 and 7).

Footpath 17 needs to be cut back and footpath 5 is also a little overgrown in places. Councillor Cox will make the necessary arrangements.

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
			£	£	£
103341	R Greasley	Salary	361.58	0.00	361.58
103342	HMRC	Tax on salary	240.80	0.00	240.80
103343	Scofell Landscapes	Grass Cutting	366.50	73.30	439.80
103344	Berk Assoc of Local Councils	Affiliation fees	431.81	0.00.	431.81

The Council accepted cheque numbers 103341-103344 and the ongoing Standing Order to cover litter picking was confirmed.

The Clerk confirmed the following:

The internal audit has now been signed off and is available for Councillors to review.

Bank statements match expenditure. The clerk confirmed that cheques to cover his salary and expenses for the last three months had not been paid into the bank due to travel restrictions.

A CIL payment has been received by the Parish Council for £1135.57p. The clerk will send councillors details of where CIL payments can be spent.

10 CORRESPONDANCE

Two requests were received for areas where hedges were obstructing pathways. The council will follow up both requests with the respective house / land owners.

11 OTHER BUSINESS

The meeting concluded at 8:30pm.