

BASILDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Basildon Parish Council held online on the 7th July 2020.

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

The following attended the meeting to discuss various planning applications:

Mr Macbeth, Mr Lloyd, Mrs Reynolds, Mr Rocos

Mr Walton attended the meeting in a general capacity.

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 4th June having been circulated to members were declared correct and signed by the Chairman.

4 PLANNING

New applications

The following applications were reviewed:

20/01451 Magheramorne House, Bethesda St – New Greenhouse (Certificate of Lawfulness)

The Parish Council had no view on the proposal.

20/01262 12 Reading Road, Lower Basildon – Extension

The Parish Council reviewed the application and voted to object on the following grounds:

The Balcony has privacy implications for immediate neighbours and is intrusive in its current form.

The proposed dormer window for the front affects the character of the property and is out of keeping with the rest of the row of houses.

The council noted that an ecological assessment is required and fully supports this.

20/01266 Draycotts, Beckfords – Extension

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

20/01441 Oak tree Cottage, Aldworth Road – New gates

The Parish Council reviewed the application and had no objections subject to the views of neighbours. Any exterior lighting should follow West Berkshire Councils dark skies policy and should not be in a permanent 'on' state with a motion sensor installed.

Confirmed Decisions

The following conditions were Approved by West Berkshire Council. The Parish Council had objected to neither:

20/01063 15 Tenepas Drive

18/03283 Oak Tree Cottage

5 REVIEW OF OPEN ACTIONS

No new Covid 19 issues were raised and the reduction of lockdown conditions were discussed. A cheque has been raised to cover the fuel costs of a local resident who delivered prescriptions.

The clerk confirmed that WBC will cut back a number of hedges which are obscuring signage along the Aldworth Road. The Parish Council will wait until the end of July and if no progress has been made will make the necessary arrangements with a private contractor.

Various pot holes around the parish have been repaired by West Berkshire Council.

The playground report from ROSPA was discussed. Councillor Chadwyck-Healey has met a local representative to discuss items raised against the Wakemans Park with loose screws, flooring and trip hazards amongst the items for a which a quote was requested. The village hall playground was confirmed to be in much better condition with little work required. It was confirmed that playgrounds in the Parish are now open following advice from the Government. Signs will be erected advising users of safe practice with Councillor Chadwyck – Healey organising the purchase which was voted on and approved by the council.

Payment for the clean up of the war memorial has been made and will start shortly. Councillor Czjaka will follow up with the contractors regarding the work.

The annual report is now completed in draft format and will be added to the website shortly. It will also be submitted to the Country Neighbour for publication in August.

Speeding in the Parish was discussed. Councillors Jones and Czjaka will review the legislation and Parish Council options with a view to contacting the MP with the concerns of the Parish Council.

6 FOOTPATHS, HIGHWAYS AND OPEN SPACES

Footpaths continue to be well used and some (footpath 17) have been cut back during 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		
			£	£	£
103346	R Greasley	Salary	361.58	0.00	361.18

103347 HMRC	Tax on salary	241.20	0.00	241.20
103348 Scofell Landscapes	Grass Cutting	366.50	73.30	439.80
103349 Berk Assoc of Local Councils	Affiliation fees	431.81	0.00	431.81
103350 Mr J Kedar	Expenses – deliveries	58.95	0.00	58.95
103351 R Greasley	Expenses	9.12	0.00	9.12
103352 West Berks Council	Wakemans Lease	41.77	0.00	41.77

The Council accepted cheque numbers 103349 - 103352 and the ongoing Standing Order to cover litter picking was confirmed.

The Clerk confirmed the following:

A second cheque has been raised for the Berkshire Association of Local Councils as the first was made payable to 'Berkshire' rather than 'Hampshire' as per the invoice.

Cheques and bank balances continue to match with no issues reported.

The audit preparation is now complete and ready for submission. The Parish Council were happy to approve the audit process to date and the chairman was asked to sign the relevant audit paperwork. This will be actioned before the next meeting.

9 CORRESPONDANCE

A number of requests relating to discounted admission at Beale Park were received. These have been addressed by Councillor Barnes and the Chairman.

10 OTHER BUSINESS

The meeting concluded at 9pm.