

## BASILDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Basildon Parish Council held online on the 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2020.

Present: Mr Parsons (Chair), Mr Jones, Ms Barnes, Mr Chadwyck-Healey, Ms N Larkin, Mr Couchman, Ms Cox, Mr Martin

Minutes: Mr Greasley (clerk)

The following members of the public attended:

Mrs Smith, Mr Berks

Apologies

Councillor Law

### 1 OPEN FORUM

No items were raised this month.

### 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were presented.

### 3 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 4<sup>th</sup> November having been circulated to members were declared correct and signed by the Chairman.

### 4 PLANNING

New applications:

The Council reviewed the following applications:

20/02722, Highfield House, Bethesda St, Home office

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

The proposed structure will be out of keeping with other houses in the immediate vicinity and presents a forward building line too close to the existing road. Additionally, the Council were concerned about the large oak tree in the front garden and felt that it would be detrimentally affected by the proposed development with significant sized branches needing to be removed to accommodate the new structure.

20/02681 / 20/02540, Blandys Wells, Fencing & wall at boundary and Carport

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

20/02669, Tomb Farm, Hook End Lane, Velux windows

The Parish Council reviewed the application and had no objections subject to the views of neighbours and the relevant dark skies policies. Any building traffic should be aware of the footpath half way down the approach road to Tomb Farm and the potential use of it by walkers.

20/02609, Millers Barn, Aldworth Road, Roof alterations and new dormers

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

20/02604, 6 Stonehouse, Lower Basildon, Roof space conversion

The Parish Council reviewed the application and had no objections to the proposed building work but noted highways concern about a lack of parking. Should highways decide that the parking solution is not appropriate, the Parish Council would support any objection they raise.

20/02238, Oak View, Aldworth Road, New wooden fence and gates

The Parish Council reviewed the application and were unclear as to where the proposed fence is going to be. As a result, the recommendation is that this application is amended accordingly and re-submitted for consideration. The Council opposes any removal or concealment of the existing mature hedge and noted that highways may wish to consider the boundary and any sight lines that may be affected by the application.

20/02571, Hadleigh Wood, Bethesda St, Extensions

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

20/02584, Red Villa, Kiln Hill, New windows and internal changes.

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

20/02489, Skagen House, New 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.

These comments mirror those submitted for application 20/01142 with the Council noting that although the location has changed the principle hasn't.

#### Confirmed Decisions

20/01929, 12 Reading Road, Lower Basildon, Extension - withdrawn

20/02092, Rose Cottage, Newtown, Garage conversion (Certificate of Lawfulness) - WBC Refused, PC No View

20/02210, Tree Cottage, Bethesda St, Restore original fireplace – WBC Approved, PC No Objection.

The Parish Council also noted that the application at Timberley was set to go before the Eastern Area Planning Committee. The Chairman will attend the meeting.

#### 5 REVIEW OF OPEN ACTIONS

The Chairman confirmed that Mr Martin had returned the relevant forms to the Clerk and formally welcomed him to the Parish Council.

The Grotto was briefly discussed. It was noted that the local MP will likely be in attendance at the January meeting and it was agreed to raise the matter again at that meeting.

Councillor Jones confirmed that the meeting with Highways has been delayed until the 18<sup>th</sup> December due to one of the District Council attendees needing to self-isolate. Councillor Jones confirmed that Mrs Miller had forwarded over some additional concerns from residents which will be reviewed and put to the district council.

The Clerk confirmed that a small number of saplings have been delivered. These will be looked after by various people from both the Parish Council and wider community and planted around the village at a later date.

The Chairman presented the code of conduct to Councillors and it was unanimously agreed.

The Council discussed the village noticeboards. Councillors will check the resident's section on a quarterly basis and tidy it as required.

#### 6 FOOTPATHS, HIGHWAYS AND OPEN SPACES

West Berkshire Council have contacted the Parish regarding gritting and will be working the same route as recent years with both the Lower and Upper Basildon main roads covered.

One tree was reported down on footpath 2 and this has been removed by the owner.

Councillor Barnes confirmed that hedges adjoining the A329 have been cut back with paths now fully accessible again.

#### 7 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

The District Councillor continues to work on local issues.

#### 8 FINANCE

The following cheques were presented to the meeting:

<b>Cheque No</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Nett</b>	<b>VAT</b>	<b>Total</b>
103377	R Greasley	Salary	361.18	0.00	361.58
103378	HMRC	Tax on salary	241.20	0.00	240.80
103379	Scofell Landscapes	Bulb planting	165.00	33.00	198.00
103380	Country Neighbour	Donation	250.00	0.00	250.00
103381	PCC Basildon	Post Office hire	400.00	0.00	400.00
103382	PJS Gardening Services	War memorial hedge cut	120.00	0.00	120.00

The Council accepted cheque numbers 103377 – 103382 and the ongoing Standing Order to cover litter picking was confirmed.

The Clerk confirmed the following:

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

The Audit is now complete with the relevant notices added to noticeboards and the Parish websites as required.

CIL paperwork has been completed and returned to WBC.

#### 9 CORRESPONDANCE

General correspondence has been received by the clerk and Chairman.

#### 10 OTHER BUSINESS

The meeting concluded at 9pm.