BASILDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Basildon Parish Council held online on the 8th September 2021

Present: Mr Parsons (Chair), Ms Barnes, Ms Larkin, Mrs Greasley, Mr Jones, Ms Cox, Mr Couchman

Apologies: Councillor Law, Mr Chadwyck-Healey

Minutes: Mr Greasley (clerk)

The following members of the public attended: Ms Rees, Mr Berks.

1 OPEN FORUM

No items were raised.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were presented.

3 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 12th August having been circulated to members were declared correct and signed by the Chairman.

4 PLANNING

The Parish Council considered the following new applications:

21/02052 Blandys Well, extension

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

21/02012 West Lodge, Reading Road. Replacement dwelling.

The Parish Council reviewed the application and had no objections subject to the view of neighbours. The Parish Council requests that the proposed tree planting is added as a condition that should remain whilst the property exists at the site.

Confirmed Decisions:

21/01606 Hollins, Pangbourne Road – extension. WBC Approved, PC No Objection

21/01255 Beech House, Bethesda St – extension. WBC Approved, PC No Objection

5 REVIEW OF OPEN ACTIONS

Councillor Chadwyck Healey has arranged to meet Wicksteed to discuss proposed locations for new play equipment. He will report back at the next meeting. Additionally, the gate at the recreation ground has now been fixed.

Councillor Jones updated the meeting on speeding and traffic in the parish. West Berkshire Council are installing a speed measurement device in the village towards the end of September and will share results shortly afterwards. These results will then define West Berkshire Councils strategy going forward.

Additionally, SID training has been discussed with Highways and the Parish Council has been offered devices to measure speed if they sign up to the relevant scheme. Councillor Jones complete the necessary paperwork to kick off proceedings.

Councillor Larkin attended an environmental conference for the County. Discussions were held around emissions, public transport and the local environment including the rivers in the area. Further meetings are yet to be scheduled and Councillor Larkin will attend any future sessions as and when required.

Councillors were asked to check the Grit boxes and report back on their condition and contents in advance of the colder weather.

The clerk will follow up the installation of two bins in Upper Basildon.

A request was received for a mirror at the junction between Maple Lane and Aldworth Road. This will be deferred to West Berkshire Council’s Highway department as the Parish Council do not have permission to erect street furniture.

The AGM was discussed. The Chairman suggested that this takes place following the October meeting on the 5th October. The Clerk will prepare an agenda for noticeboards and the website.

6 FOOTPATHS, HIGHWAYS AND OPEN SPACES

No issues were reported with footpaths other than some intrusive brambles on footpath 3 which will be followed up by the clerk.

7 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

The District Councillor continues to work on local issues.

8 FINANCE

The following cheques were presented to the meeting:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Cheque No** | **Payee** | **Purpose** | **Nett** | **VAT** | **Total** |
| 103441 | R Greasley | Salary | 361.58 | 0.00 | 361.58 |
| 103442 | HMRC | Tax on salary | 240.80 | 0.00 | 240.80 |
| 103443 | Opio Ltd | Gate Repairs - Park | 200.00 | 0.00 | 200.00 |
| 103444 | Scofell | Grass Cutting | 409.63 | 81.93 | 491.56 |
| 103445 | R Greasley | Stamps | 18.12 | 0.00 | 18.12 |
| 103446 | PKF Littlejohn | Audit fee | 200.00 | 40.00 | 240.00 |

The Council accepted cheque numbers 103441 – 103446 and the ongoing Standing Order to cover litter picking was confirmed. The Direct debit to SSE was also confirmed as received and acceptable.

Cheques versus bank statements were confirmed as correct and matching as required.

The external audit is now complete with no issues raised by PKF Littlejohn. The clerk will arrange for the necessary notices to be added to noticeboards and prepared for the website.

9 CORRESPONDANCE

A request to mount a mirror on the corner of Maple Lane has been received and passed to the Chairman and Councillor Jones to review. This was discussed under the open actions section.

10 OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

The meeting concluded at 8:30pm