BASILDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Basildon Parish Council held online on the 1st December 2021

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

Apologies: Councillor Law, Mr Chadwyck-Healey, Ms Cox

Minutes: Mr Greasley (clerk)

1 OPEN FORUM

No items were raised.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3 MINUTES

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

4 PLANNING

The Parish Council considered the following new applications:

21/02734 Timberley, Pangbourne Road – extension

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

Confirmed Decisions:

21/02224 Beech House - Annex, WBC Approved, BPC Approved

21/02052 Blandys Well – extension, WBC Approved, BPC Approved

21/02248 Wallingford House, Buckhold – extension, WBC Approved, BPC Approved

5 REVIEW OF OPEN ACTIONS

St Stephens have been contacted to confirm that the Parish Council will pay the balance required to enable a defibulator to be installed at site. The church will invoice the Parish Council once the exact figure is known.

The Clerk will write to West Berkshire Council regarding the Grotto which continues to deteriorate. Recent drone footage shared on social media has shown that the interior remains exposed to the elements with the building suffering further as a result and the Parish Council remains extremely concerned as to the buildings future.

The speed survey was confirmed as completed by Councillor Jones. Data is set to be shared by West Berkshire Council this month and will be discussed at the January meeting.

A meeting between between Beale Park and two Parish Councillors will be scheduled for later in December. Feedback will be presented at the next meeting.

Recycling locally was discussed. Councillor Larkin has ordered a pair of recycling boxes from teracycle to cover various items with details published in the next issue of the Country Neighbour. Delivery to the Village Hall will be at some point in December.

Costs at the recreation ground were reviewed and the clerk confirmed that around 7k has been spent on hedge trimming, tree maintenance and grass cutting during the last year with a slightly lower figure for 2020. The Chairman suggested that in addition to these costs there are others that are more ad hoc including tree work in the village hall car park, outside gym servicing and tennis court leylandii maintenance and as such an extra activity per year should be scheduled. This was agreed by the Council with the gym selected as the first item for attention.

6 FOOTPATHS, HIGHWAYS AND OPEN SPACES

No issues were reported with footpaths; an invoice was received for hedge cutting at the recreation ground which the Parish Council covered as part of its agreement with the Village Hal trustees.

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** |
| 103462 | R Greasley | Salary | 361.18 | 0.00 | 361.18 |
| 103463 | HMRC | Tax on salary | 241.20 | 0.00 | 241.20 |
| 103464 | Michael Cairns | Tree Work | 840.00 | 0.00 | 840.00 |
| 103465 | R Greasley | Domain Name renewal | 15.99 | 3.20 | 19.19 |

The Council accepted cheque numbers 103462 – 103465 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 by the Clerk with no issues noted.

9 CORRESPONDANCE

No correspondence was received

10 OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business and the meeting concluded at 8:15pm