BASILDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Basildon Parish Council held on the 9th August 2023 at the Village Hall in Upper Basildon.

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

Apologies: Mr Chadwyck-Healey, Ms L Coyle (District Councillor)

The following members of the public attended: Mr & Mrs Keyser

Minutes: Mr Greasley (clerk)

1 OPEN FORUM

The 143 bus service was discussed and Councillor Couchman provided an update of the current state of play. West Berkshire Council is currently running a consultation to explore if there are other options which would be both more cost efficient and potentially offer a better solution to residents. Any changes would likely be introduced in 2024 and a survey has been sent to all local residents as part of the process. The Parish Council have followed up with the district councillor who will keep Councillors updated as further information becomes available.

An update on vehicle speed checks in Upper Basildon was requested. Councillor Jones confirmed that a request for more volunteers to use hand held speed devices would be going into the Country Neighbour as currently there aren’t enough volunteers to proceed.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were raised.

3 MINUTES

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

4 PLANNING

The Parish Council considered the following new applications:

23/00138 1 Morrison Close – retrospective car port

The Parish Council reviewed the application and voted by majority to object on the grounds of appearance which was considered to the detriment of the immediate area.

23/01722 27 Wakemans – extension

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

Confirmed Decisions:

23/01284 Kubasia, Pangbourne Road – extension – WBC Approved, PC No Objection

It was also noted that the planning application for ‘Knappswood’ on Gardeners Lane has been escalated to the secretary of state.

5 GENERAL ITEMS

The Chairman presented a quote for the repair of posts and general upkeep of the Village Green and this was agreed by members of the Parish Council.

The Clerk confirmed that the latest register of interest forms will be shared with Councillors to complete.

Street lighting for Wakemans has been discussed with the district councillor with further conversations expected at the next Parish Council meeting.

6 FOOTPATHS, HIGHWAYS AND OPEN SPACES

The district councillor has been asked to intervene with requests for bramble cut back along the A329 in Lower Basildon.

The Clerk will flag footpath 5 to West Berkshire Council for a cut back.

7 FINANCE

The following cheques were presented to the meeting:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Cheque No** | **Payee** | **Purpose** | **Nett** | **VAT** | **Total** |
| 103577 | R Greasley | Salary + expenses (£13.20) | 399.87 | 0.00 | 399.87 |
| 103578 | HMRC | Tax on salary | 266.80 | 0.00 | 266.80 |
| 103579 | Tactical FM | Grass Cutting x3 | 534.00 | 106.80 | 640.80 |
| 103580 | West Berks Council | Gritting for 2022/23 | 1221.40 | 244.28 | 1465.68 |
| 103581 | Vision ICT | Website hosting | 35.00 | 7.00 | 42.00 |
| 103582 | West Berkshire Council | Grounds Maintenance | 86.23 | 17.25 | 103.48 |

The Council accepted cheque numbers 103577 – 103582.

The Clerk confirmed that bank statements continue to tally with the Councils records as required.

8 CORRESPONDENCES

Correspondence regarding a planning matter has been received and discussed with the requestor.

9 OTHER BUSINESS

The meeting concluded at 8:15pm. The next meeting will be on the 13th September from 7:30pm.