BASILDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Basildon Parish Council held on the 11th October 2023 at the Village Hall in Upper Basildon.

Present: Mr Couchman (Chairman), Mrs Greasley, Ms Barnes, Ms Cox, Mr Chadwyck-Healey, Ms L Coyle (District Councillor)

Apologies: Mr Jones, Mr Parsons

Minutes: Mr Greasley (clerk)

1 OPEN FORUM

No items were raised.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were raised.

3 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 13th September having been circulated to members were declared correct and signed by the Chairman.

4 PLANNING

The Parish Council considered the following new applications:

23/01627 The Old Pig Sty, Blandys Lane – formulation of vehicular access and erection of entrance gates

The Parish Council had a number of conditions that they would like to be enforced, namely:

* The old entrance must be taken out of service if the application is approved.
* Any hedging removed should be re-used if possible to help block the old entrance (or indigenous/native hedging should be used).
* The Council notes the current excessive use of fence panels at the site which are at odds with the remainder of Blandys Lane and requests these are not permitted as part of this application.
* No lighting should be permitted on gates.
* Gates should be in keeping with others on Blandys Lane (eg farm gates).
* Driveway materials should match those on the village design statement (gravel).

Should these conditions be met, the Parish Council would have no objections.

Confirmed Decisions:

None this month.

5 GENERAL ITEMS

District Councillor Coyle updated the meeting on the proposed members bid for bike repair stations at two locations in the Parish. The Clerk and/or Chairman will contact the Red Lion pub regarding a potential location and Councillor Barnes will look for a convenient site in Lower Basildon.

District Councillor Coyle advised the meeting that significant road works will be kicking off in Goring and Streatley between the 20th and 30th October. This will make access over the Thames only available to those travelling on foot.

Councillor Chadwyck-Healey continues to liaise with various parties regarding street lighting. District Councillor Coyle has acquired a map regarding lighting ownership and this will be forwarded on along with contact details for a contractor who can advise on potential LED replacements.

6 FOOTPATHS, HIGHWAYS AND OPEN SPACES

The Clerk confirmed that footpath 11 is now fully accessible, however, the adjacent path leading to Harley House is muddy to the point of being impassable. The Clerk will look into possible remediation including raising it with West Berkshire Council.

The rear play area of the Village Hall requires a tidy up in advance of a new toddler group holding sessions there. The Clerk confirmed a cost of approximately £800 which the Parish Council will pick up and this was confirmed.

7 FINANCE

The following cheques were presented to the meeting:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Cheque No** | **Payee** | **Purpose** | **Nett** | **VAT** | **Total** |
| 103589 | R Greasley | Salary | 400.27 | 0.00 | 400.27 |
| 103590 | HMRC | Tax on salary | 266.80 | 0.00 | 266.80 |
| 103591 | Friends of Emery Down Wood | Donation | 1000.00 | 0.00 | 1000.00 |
| 103592 | M Greasley | Basildon Badgers – funding of goals, footballs and line paint | 831.50 | 0.00 | 831.50 |
| 103593 | PKF Littlejohn | Audit fee | 210.00 | 42.00 | 252.00 |
| 103594 | Tactical Facilities Mgt | Grass cutting x3 | 534.00 | 106.80 | 640.80 |
| 103595 | Opio Ltd | Works on Village Green | 538.96 | 0.00 | 538.96 |

The Council accepted cheque numbers 103589 – 103595 and the clerk confirmed the direct debit for SSE.

The Clerk confirmed that the audit is now complete with details added to the website and noticeboards.

8 CORRESPONDENCES

A planning issue was raised and has been passed to the relevant enforcement team in West Berkshire Council.

9 OTHER BUSINESS

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