

BASILDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Basildon Parish Council held at the Village Hall, Upper Basildon on Thursday 8th February 2018

Present: Mr Ian Parsons (Chairman), Ms Halina Czajka, Ms Elaine Cox, Ms Nathalie Weekes, Mr Tim Martin and Mr Robert Greasley (Clerk).

Apologies:

Apologies were received from Councillors Barnes, Jones and Couchman. The district councillor was also unavailable.

The following residents attended the meeting:

Mr Major attended regarding a planning matter.

1 OPEN FORUM

No matters were raised during the open forum.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Martin declared an interest for the Basildon Park Planning application.

3 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 11th January having been circulated to members were declared correct and signed by the Chairman.

4 PLANNING

No applications were circulated in advance and decided by the meeting.

New applications:

17/03539 5A Spring Close (Conditions)

The Parish Council reviewed the application and had no view on the proposal.

18/00112 Drift Farm, Ashampstead (Replacement Garden Shed)

The Parish Council reviewed the application and no objections subject to the views of neighbours and a condition that the new structure is not habitable.

17/03415 2 Park Farm Cottages, Mead Lane (Extension)

The Parish Council reviewed the application and had no objections subject to the views of neighbours and the conservation officer (if applicable).

17/03265 Basildon Park (Replacement Wall)

The Parish Council reviewed the application and had no objections.

Confirmed decisions, Parish Council decision in brackets:

17/03322 Lower Basildon View - residential change - Approved (PC Objection)

17/02848 Greenwood, Ashampstead Road – Garage extension - Approved (PC No Objection)

17/03152 Witneys Four, Gardeners Lane –Certificate of Lawfulness - Granted (PC No view)

17/03112 14 Morrison Close – Extension – Refused (PC No Objection)

17/03244 Hillfields Farm, Park Wall Lane – Certificate of Lawfulness - Granted (PC No view)

5 Review of Open Actions

Key points of note were as follows:

- a) An article regarding dark skies has been put together for the Country Neighbour and will appear in the next issue.
- b) Street light repairs have been requested for Wakemans but SSE believe that a new LED light may be required due to age and available parts.
- c) The Chairman has written to the Primary School regarding a meeting with the head teacher.
- d) The Chairman confirmed that he had attended the latest Neighbourhood Action Group meeting. The meeting discussed Pangbourne Police Station which is set to be moved in the future out towards the A4 and fly tipping which has increased in the area as well as other general issues.
- e) The Chairman has met with a representative from Beale Park to talk about their plans for the upcoming season. Discussions were held around subsidies for those in the Parish and these will continue.
- f) The Chairman passed on his thanks to Councillor Couchman for attending the EAPC meeting on the 7th February.

6 FOOTPATHS, HIGHWAYS AND OPEN SPACES

Footpath 3 has what looks to be a leaking pipe a third of the way along it. This has been raised to West Berkshire Council to investigate.

7 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

The District Councillor was unable to attend the meeting but continues to work on general issues.

8 FINANCE

The following cheques were presented to the meeting:

Ch No	PAYEE	PURPOSE	NETT	VAT	TOTAL
			AMNT		
			£	£	£
103162	R Greasley	Salary	463.20	0.00	463.20
103163	HMRC	Tax on salary	115.80	0.00	115.80
103164	West Berks Council	Library Supprt	1740.00	0.00	1740.00
103165	I D Parsons	Expenses – travel	25.20	0.00	25.20

The Council accepted cheque numbers 103162-1030165 and the ongoing Standing Order to cover litter picking was confirmed.

The clerk updated the Parish Council on the current financial position and confirmed the following:

- a) Bank Statements have been received and match the Parish Council records.
- b) The Clerk shared details of the budget and confirmed the figure of 28k was allocated for the 18/19 budget. It was noted that donations to organisations represent over a third of the budget yet the precept figure continues to be stable and has risen only 2k in the last 7-8 years. The Clerk confirmed numerous other projects in the past had accounted for sizeable amounts of budget. Included in the budget for 18/19 were the Parish Council's usual commitments to grass cutting, support of the Village Hall, Post Office, gritting and local clubs and the Chairman confirmed that money was available for new initiatives and it was agreed that further discussions should take place.
- c) The Clerk confirmed that spend against the current year was on track.

10 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk confirmed that the following had been received:

A letter has been received regarding a breach of planning which has been followed up by the Clerk.

The Parish Council have been contacted regarding further play equipment and this will be put to the Village Hall trustees.

11 OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

The meeting concluded at 9pm

The next meeting will be held on the 8th March 2018 at the Village Hall from 7:30pm