

## **BASILDON PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the meeting of Basildon Parish Council held at the Village Hall, Upper Basildon on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2018.

Present: Mr Ian Parsons (Chairman), Mr Geoff Couchman, Ms Sarah Barnes, Ms Natalie Weekes, Ms Halina Czajka and Robert Greasley (Clerk).

The following members of the public attended the meeting:

Mrs Spiller, Dr Twitchett, Mr Thomas and Mr Turnbull.

Apologies:

Apologies were received from Councillors Cox and Jones.

### **1 OPEN FORUM**

Mr Thomas addressed the meeting and confirmed that he was the owner of the land on the corner of Blandys Lane and Bethesda Street. The land was formerly an orchard and Mr Thomas would now like to potentially build a number of affordable houses on the plot. The Parish Council listened to the proposal and confirmed that it will not support any development outside of the settlement boundary.

### **2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **3 MINUTES**

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

### **4 PLANNING**

18/02406 Tanglewood, Bethesda St, Extension

The Parish Council reviewed the application and voted to object on the following grounds:

The Parish Council believe that this application is more for a replacement building than an extension.

The Windows in the East elevation are intrusive on the immediate neighbours and are both large and (from the plans) of clear glazing which is unacceptable to the occupants of the neighbouring property. Due to its size and proximity to its neighbours the Council believes that there will be issues around light pollution and a general loss of privacy.

The design is also out of keeping with surrounding properties.

#### 18/0240 Devon Cottage, Bethesda St, Extension

The Parish Council reviewed the application and had no objections subject to the views of the neighbours. A condition should be attached around use of the upstairs room as a living space and any lighting should comply with the relevant dark skies policy.

#### 18/01786 2 Park Farm Cottages, New driveway

The Parish Council reviewed the planning application and had no objections subject to the views of neighbours and the full implementation of the relevant hedging as per the plans provided.

Confirmed decisions since the last meeting:

Number	Location	Request	PC Decision	WBC Decision
18/02263	Lower Farm, Park Wall Lane	Certificate of Lawfulness	No View	Approved
18/02224	Garlands, Pangbourne Rd	New house in front garden	No objection	Approved
18/01950	Grove House, Reading Road	Division of house into two dwellings	No objection	Approved
18/01922	Farfield, Pangbourne Road, Upper Basildon	Replacement Garage	No objection	Approved

#### 5 Review of Open Actions

Key points of note were as follows:

The Village Hall and the subsidy to it was discussed. The Parish Council reviewed the proposal put forward and voted to accept it. The Chairman will update the Village Hall Trustees.

Village Gateways were discussed and a number of options reviewed. Councillor Barnes and Czajka will photograph existing village signs and note their locations. The clerk will then collate the returns and send them to West Berkshire Council Highways Department to review.

The Clerk will contact Highways regarding two speed notification devices and their potential locations across the Parish.

The Council voted to accept the cost of re-painting the park equipment at Wakemans.

The Chairman confirmed that Beale Park will be forwarding on application forms for discounted season tickets.

The Parish have been invited to submit suggestions for the County Blue Plaque scheme. The Chairman will include this in the Country Neighbour.

The Chairman will write to landowners in Lower Basildon regarding hedge cutting.

## 6 FOOTPATHS, HIGHWAYS AND OPEN SPACES

All paths were confirmed as good with no new issues raised over the last month.

## 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
			£	£	£
103213	R Greasley	Salary	347.40	0.00	347.40
103214	HMRC	Tax on salary	231.60	0.00	231.60
103215	Scofell	Grass Cutting	366.50	73.30	439.80
103216	PKF LittleJohn	Audit charges	200.00	40.00	240.00
103217	PCC Basildon	Post Office Hire	400.00	0.00	400.00

The Council accepted cheque numbers 103213-103217 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:

- Bank Statements have been received and match the Parish Council records.
- The annual audit has been successfully completed.
- The Clerk will kick off the VAT returns.
- The second part of the precept has been received.

## 10 CORRESPONDANCE

The Clerk confirmed that no correspondence has been received this month.

## 11 OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

The meeting concluded at 9pm

The next meeting will be held on the 8<sup>th</sup> November 2018 at the Village Hall from 7:30pm