

BASILDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Basildon Parish Council held on the 13th August at the Village Hall in Upper Basildon.

Present: Mr Parsons (Chair), Mrs Greasley, Mr Chadwyck-Healey, Mr Gidden, Mr Couchman, Mr Greasley (Clerk).

Apologies: Ms Cox, Mrs Kilgour, Ms Barnes, District Councillor Ms Coyle,

The following members of the public attended the meeting: Mr Morris.

1.OPEN FORUM

None were raised.

2.DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None were raised.

3.MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 9th July having been circulated to members in advance of the meeting was signed by the Chairman.

4.PLANNING

The meeting reviewed the following applications:

25/01652/CERT White Lodge, Lower Basildon – Removal of Chimney Stack (Certificate of Lawfulness)
The Parish Council had no view.

25/01691 Caius Cottage, New Garage and Garage Conversion

The Parish Council voted by majority to have no objections subject to the views of neighbours.

Confirmed Decisions

25/01349 Church Farm, Minor Alterations – WBC Approval, PC No Objections

25/01219 Tomb Farm, Replacement Condenser Unit – WBC Approval, PC No Objection

25/00161 Tomb Farm, Porch enclosure – WBC Approval, PC No Objection

25/01328/CERT The Orchids, Reading Road – New Velux Windows, WBC Refused, PC No Objection

25/01292 Knapp Wood, Gardeners Lane – Extension, WBC Approved, PC No Objection

25/01002 The Barn House, Lower Basildon – extension – WBC Approved, PC No Objection

25/00840 Rushlea, Kiln Corner – Extensions – WBC Approved, PC No Objection

Note – 25/00133/FORMB was raised for the land between Hare Green and Tomb Farm and an electricity line upgrade. This was reviewed and passed by West Berkshire Council and did not require Parish Council involvement.

5.GENERAL ITEMS

The Chairman welcomed Madeleine Mealor as a Councillor and the Clerk advised that all relevant paperwork had been completed as required.

The Clerk confirmed that the financial regulations document had been circulated in advance of the meeting. No amendments were requested and the Clerk asked Councillors to confirm their acceptance of it for the next 12 months. This was agreed unanimously by the meeting.

The Clerk confirmed that the donation to the hungry holidays initiative had been made as per Councillors request at the July meeting.

Ben Morris attended the meeting to provide an update on the development of the new website for the Parish Council. Changes were outlined and included page counters, home page amendments, email alert functions and updates to planning and the storage of documents. The switch over to the new site will be this month and the Clerk and Chairman will arrange for a '.gov' email address to be created. Additionally, Councillor Greasley will set up a direct debit for the web site hosting company (Hugo Fox).

The meeting discussed the proposed village survey and agreed on a number of actions. Councillor Giddon will contact West Berkshire Council around potential funding for the initiative. In parallel, the Chairman will share a list of first draft questions which will be revised as required prior to publication. Additionally, the Chairman confirmed that the Country Neighbour have agreed to publish any questionnaire and also provide a space in each issue for the Parish Council to provide an update. A further progress update will be delivered at the next meeting.

The future of the Red Lion pub was discussed. The Parish Council are led to believe that an offer has been accepted by Stonegate to sell the premises as a going concern which in turn means that the Asset of Community Value remains in place and transfers to any new owner. Councillor Giddon will follow up progress and report back as information becomes available.

6. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR UPDATES

The District Councillor continues to work on local issues.

7. FOOTPATHS, HIGHWAYS AND OPEN SPACES

The Clerk reported that the footpaths remain in good condition generally with no issues raised. Recent cut backs by West Berkshire Council have been invaluable and the Clerk placed on record his thanks for their efforts.

8. FINANCE - UPDATES

The following cheques were presented to the meeting:

Cheque	Payee	Purpose	Nett	VAT	Total
103718	R Greasley	Salary and donation to Good Exchange for Hungry Holidays	1428.13	0.00	1428.13
103719	Tactical FM – c/o Bibby financial	Grass Cutting (cost over 12 months)	288.50	57.70	346.20
103720	Tactical FM – c/o Bibby financial	Monthly bin emptying change	24.83	4.97	29.80
103721	Ian Parsons	Expenses for speeding signs	12.27	0.00	12.27

The Council accepted cheque numbers 103718 to 103721 and the clerk confirmed the direct debit to HMRC and SSE. Account totals were also shared with the meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

The meeting concluded at 8:30pm. The next meeting will be on the 10th September.