

BASILDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Basildon Parish Council held on the 8th May at the Village Hall in Upper Basildon.

Present: Ms Barnes, Mrs Greasley, Mr Couchman, Mr Parsons (Chair), Mr Greasley (clerk), Mr Chadwyck-Healey, Ms Cox

Apologies: Ms L Coyle (District Councillor),

OPEN FORUM

No items were raised.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No items were raised.

MINUTES

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

PLANNING

The Chairman noted no new applications had been received.

Confirmed Decisions

23/00172 Feathers Farm, Blandys Lane – Retrospective Barn – WBC Approved, PC No Objection

24/00131 Brae Cottage, Yattendon Road – extensions – WBC Approved, PC No Objection

24/00226 Knappswood Farm, Pangbourne Road – detached garages (x2) – WBC Refused, PC Objection

GENERAL ITEMS

The Chairman confirmed that he'd received details of the Emery Down Wood trustees spend for the 2023 grant and based on that was happy to confirm the grant of £750 towards the woodland survey.

The clerk confirmed that three insurance companies were contacted for an insurance quote. Of these, two were able to offer a price with the Suffolk Community Action Group representing the cheapest option. The Council confirmed it was happy to proceed and the Clerk will make the necessary arrangements.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR UPDATES

The District Councillor continues to work on local issues.

FOOTPATHS, HIGHWAYS AND OPEN SPACES

No issues were reported other than a number of muddy sections and a drain blockage (covered in correspondence)

FINANCE

The following cheques were presented to the meeting:

Cheque No	Payee	Purpose	Nett	VAT	Total
103628	R Greasley	Salary + claim back Red Lion campaign Survey funding	400.27	0.00	400.27
103629	HMRC	Tax on salary	266.40	0.00	266.40
103630	Tactical FM	Grass cutting	288.50	57.70	346.20
103631	I.Parsons	Expenses (Micosoft software)	12.99	0.00	12.99
103632	Purley Parish Council	Room Hire - meeting	18.00	0.00	18.00
103633	Emery Down Wood	Donation – woodland survey	750.00	0.00	750.00
103635	Playsafety Ltd	Rospa Inspection	94.00	18.80	112.80

The Council accepted cheque numbers 103628 – 635 and the clerk confirmed the direct debit for SSE. It was noted that cheque 10634 was void. The Clerk confirmed that cheque to bank balance checks have been completed without issue and that the internal audit will kick off shortly.

The Clerk informed the meeting that the internal audit was complete with minor observations only and as a result the relevant external audit pack was ready for sign off. This was passed to the Chairman to approve and sign following unanimous approval by the meeting of sections 1 and 2 of the AGAR.

The Clerk concluded by advising the meeting that the Council should consider a Parish Council specialist auditor for next year to ensure that the Council meets all relevant standards and not just those related to finance.

CORRESPONDENCES

The Clerk was asked to report a drainage issue on the Pangbourne Road and confirmed this was raised to West Berkshire Council.

OTHER BUSINESS

The meeting concluded at 7:30pm. The next meeting will be on the 12th June from 7:30pm.