

BASILDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Basildon Parish Council held on the 10th December at the Village Hall in Upper Basildon.

Present: Mr Parsons (Chair), Mrs Greasley, Mr Gidden, Ms Cox, Mr Greasley (Clerk).

Apologies: Councillors Couchman, Mealor, Chadwyck-Healey, Barnes, Kilgour and District Councillor Ms Coyle.

The following members of the public attended – Mr & Mrs Raggett.

1.OPEN FORUM

None were raised.

2.DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None were raised.

3.MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 12th November having been circulated to members in advance of the meeting was signed by the Chairman.

4.PLANNING

The following applications were reviewed:

25/02675 Alda, Kiln Corner, New double Garage

The Parish Council reviewed the application and had no objections subject to the views of neighbours.

Confirmed Decisions

25/02003 10 Teneplas Drive, extension, WBC Approval, PC No Objection

25/02350 20A Teneplas Drive, Separate Property (Certificate of Lawfulness), WBC Approval, PC No View.

The Clerk informed the meeting that 25/02172 for Hadleigh Wood and the removal of various conditions has been withdrawn

5.GENERAL ITEMS

The Clerk confirmed that meetings will continue with the same cadence in 2026 with the second Wednesday of the month continuing.

6. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR UPDATES

The District Councillor continues to work on local issues and will present an update at the January meeting.

7.FOOTPATHS, HIGHWAYS AND OPEN SPACES

The Clerk reported that there were no issues to report with footpaths or any open spaces other than their gradual deterioration as the wetter weather continues.

The WI have confirmed that they'll put up lights on the village green Christmas tree.

The Clerk and Chairman have kicked off the quotation process for grass cutting and this will run into the New Year.

The Clerk has completed a traffic survey at the Hook End Lane Crossroads.

The following data was shared:

	20 MINUTE TIME SLOT FROM:				
TRAVELLING FROM:	08:00	10:30	16:45		% TOTAL TRAFFIC
LOWER BASILDON	6	6	8		17.2
RED LION	26	4	13		37.1
KILN HILL	24	8	10		36.2
ALDWORTH	4	1	6		9.5
TOTAL	60	19	37	Total 116	

The Clerk reported that one car drove straight through the crossroads (Kiln Hill towards Lower Basildon) during the duration of the survey and it was noted that at the time (8:05am) visibility was good and signage clearly visible. Elsewhere, it was generally noted that traffic used the crossroads correctly with time of day having no bearing on how the Crossroads were approached by motorists. It was confirmed that this information had been passed to the District Councillor.

The Clerk has checked all grit bins in Upper Basildon with no refills required. Councillor Barnes has been asked to check the grit bin in Lower Basildon.

Councillor Gidden will look into the purchase of a number of fruit trees for the village green having received support from the Parish Council.

The Clerk confirmed that the fence at the approach to Wakemans is the responsibility of West Berkshire Council to fix and confirmation has been received that the work will take place. Likewise, West Berkshire Council have also confirmed that a small portion of land by the garages at Wakemans will also be cut by them on a semi regular basis.

8.FINANCE - UPDATES

The following cheques were presented to the meeting:

Cheque	Payee	Purpose	Nett	VAT	Total
103738	R Greasley	Salary + Fasthosts renewal (£20.53)	448.13	0.00	448.13
103739	Tactical FM – c/o Bibby financial	Grass Cutting (cost over 12 months)	288.50	57.70	346.20
103740	Tactical FM – c/o Bibby financial	Monthly bin emptying change	24.83	4.97	29.80
103741	Community Heartbeat	Defibrillator and Install costs	2356.00	471.20	2827.20

The Council accepted cheque numbers 103738 to 103741 and the clerk confirmed the direct debit to HMRC and SSE. It was agreed that the Clerk would act as one signatory (the Chairman the other) as the two other signatories were absent due to holiday and illness.

The Clerk met with HSBC and completed the safeguarding review and has signed up for another year with the Internal Audit company who completed the 2025 assessment. Work will kick off in the first quarter of 2026.

The Clerk confirmed that the risk policy and schedule had been updated and Councillors agreed to accept the new version. The next review will take place at the end of 2026.

OTHER BUSINESS

The meeting concluded at 8pm. The next meeting will be on the 14th January.