

BASILDON PARISH COUNCIL

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

Present: Ms Barnes, Mrs Greasley, Mr Couchman, Mr Parsons (Chair), Mr Greasley (clerk)

Apologies: Mr Chadwyck-Healey, Ms Cox, 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

23/02492 Feathers Farm, Blandys Lane – single story shelter – WBC Approved, PC No Objection

23/02764 7 Wakemans, Garage replacement – WBC Approved, PC Objection

23/01976 Church Farm, Lower Basildon – Minor Alterations – WBC Approved, PC No Objection

GENERAL ITEMS

The Clerk confirmed that he'd contacted Beale Park regarding the potential to run a parkrun with set up cost support from the Parish Council. Beale Park have discussed and confirmed that they will contact the Parish Council should they wish to take this further. The Chairman additionally noted that no stamped discount forms will be accepted by Beale Park from this date onwards.

The Chairman asked Councillors to vote on the grant proposal for Emery Down Wood as per their presentation at the March meeting. Councillors voted to award a £750 grant and the Chairman will confirm this in writing. Additionally, he'll ask the trustees for Emery Down to confirm what last years grant was used for as per the agreement between the Parish Council and the trust.

The Chairman confirmed a pay award of 7% had been offered to the Clerk with the new rate in place from May.

The clerk followed up the website upgrade; further conversations with Vision ICT will be required.

The clerk confirmed that there is now only one declaration of interest form outstanding and this was followed up with the respective Councillor.

The Clerk confirmed that a small group had met and discussed the future of the Red Lion pub in Upper Basildon. A survey was circulated locally with returns suggesting there was interest in obtaining the freehold and establishing a community pub/hub. The meeting confirmed its support for such a venture and signed off expenses for £75 to cover work around the survey. For next steps, a public meeting is planned within the next month; the District Councillor has been updated of the current state of play via email.

It was confirmed that the Annual assembly for the Parish Council will be held on the 8th May. The Chairman will look into guest speakers with a suggestion that a practical demonstration of CPR at the start of the meeting could be of use to residents.

The Clerk will obtain a picture of the bike repair station at Goring to assist Councillor Couchman with his work with Beale Park in locating one near the old curtain shop.

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.

FINANCE

The following cheques were presented to the meeting:

Cheque No	Payee	Purpose	Nett	VAT	Total
103624	R Greasley	Salary + claim back Red Lion campaign Survey funding	475.27	0.00	475.27
103625	HMRC	Tax on salary	266.40	0.00	266.40
103626	West Berkshire Council	Contribution – Returning officer recharge	80.00	0.00	80.00
103627	Tactical FM	Grass cutting	288.50	57.70	346.20

The Council accepted cheque numbers 103624 – 27 and the clerk confirmed the direct debit for SSE. The Clerk confirmed that cheque to bank balance checks have been completed without issue and that the internal audit will kick off shortly.

CORRESPONDENCES

No correspondence has been received this month.

OTHER BUSINESS

The meeting concluded at 8:15pm. The next meeting will be on the 8th May with timings to be confirmed due to the annual assembly.