

AGENDA

Birlingham Parish Council

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To Members of Birlingham Parish Council
You are duly required to attend the next meeting to be held on
Wednesday 19 March 2014
Village Hall
7.45pm

Welcome

Present

Apologies for absence

- 1) Notice of the casual vacancy – expires on Monday 17 March

Advisory note: Vacancy on the council has first to be posted on the notice board – this should be done at once. The requirement to do this is statutory, so it does not require a decision of the council. The notice tells people that electors can call for a bye election within two weeks of the date of the notice; if ten of them do so, the district council will call an election.

The elections officer at the district council has been told about the vacancy. If no bye election is called, the elections officer will notify you, and the council can then co-opt to fill the vacancy. The council cannot co-opt until the opportunity to call an election has been given.

- 2) Declarations of Interest

- a) Register of Interests: Councillors are reminded of the need to update their register of interests.
- b) To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items on the agenda and their nature.
- c) To declare any Other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature.

(Councillors who have declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, or Other Disclosable Interest which falls within the terms of paragraph 12(4) of the code of conduct, must leave the room for the relevant items)

- 3) Minutes of the previous meeting.
To consider the minutes of the meeting held on 15 January 2014 and minutes to be approved.
- 4) Democratic Opening
- 5) Co-option of Councillors – 2 vacancies
(Declaration of Acceptance of Office must be signed by a new member before or at the first meeting of the council after their co-option - 9 July Localism Bill)
- 6) Resignations/Thank yous

- Letter to Tony Hall for over 10 years 'service' and email to Charlotte Butler for her work.

7) Progress Reports

- a. Footpath Warden
- b. District Councillor (if not present request written report)
- c. County Councillor (if not present request written report)
- d. Clerk

8) Planning

- a. Report on outstanding planning applications
- b. Applications granted/refused

9) Financial Matters

- a. Bank balance
- b. The Accounts for 2013/2014
Note: precept *
- c. Receipts – none
Payments –
£35.98 - Website domain renewal 23/1/13- 23/1/14 cheque number 298
- d. Future payments
£170.00 – Lengthsman (Nov – Jan)
£100.00 – Lengthsman (Feb)
PAYE HM Revenues & Customs – January, February, March
Clerks pay
Clerk's expenses
Village Hall contribution
- e. Auditor for 2013/14 has been approached
- f. Cancellation of cheque number 297

10) Website

Discussion on the future of the site.

For example - Consider due to next financial year. Website still to be "officially launched".

Which page should we put ads on?

Where on the page?

What size ads?

How much do we charge?

How do we get people to advertise?

How long should ads run for and how frequently can they be updated?

What do we do with the income?

The long-term maintenance of the website.

11) Village email

Action for the future.

The long-term maintenance of the email news?

12) Neighbourhood Plans

Letter draft. Further update.

13) Defford Parachute Club

Attached note. Discuss.

- 14) Trees / Hedges / Jubilee Wood
Discuss.
- 15) Jubilee Committee
Formation of a permanent Jubilee Committee. Discuss.
- 16) Training
CALC sessions. Councillors/clerk attendance and cost.
- 17) Councillors' reports and items for future agenda
- 18) Closure and next meeting on 21May at 7.00pm for Annual Parish meeting and at 7.30pm Parish Council meeting at 7.30pm.

Clerk

13 March 2014

* CALC Issue 5
No Capping This Time

The ministerial statement about the 2014-15 local government finance settlement, which is to be debated on 11th February, was laid before parliament yesterday. Justin Griggs at NALC has sent the following message:

Colleagues,

The Government has not extended referendum principles to parish councils. The key element of today's written ministerial statement by Local Government Minister Brandon Lewis MP on the final local government finance settlement 2014/2015 is below:

"We have not determined principles for local precepting authorities in 2014 to 2015, but we are putting on notice that we are prepared if necessary to apply the referendum thresholds to larger town and parish councils from 2015 to 2016 onwards to provide protection for local taxpayers and extend the principle of direct democracy."

The statement also reiterates the Minister's expectation council tax support funding is passed on to parish councils:

"We have also set out previously that there is some £3.3 billion in the settlement this year for council Tax support schemes. There is an element within this national pot that is there specifically to reflect reductions in the parish tax base. We have not separately identified the money because it is not ring-fenced and as caseloads change and schemes evolve, the amount that different parishes need will change. It would be wrong to try to manage that centrally. But we have been clear that we expect billing authorities to carry on passing on support to town councils and parishes to help mitigate any reduction in their tax base due to the local Council Tax support scheme."

You can read the statement in full at:

Please circulate this news and information to parish councils as quickly as you can as many are still in the process of setting their budgets and precept.

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Defford Parachute Club Mar 3 at 2:30 PM

Email information, quotes

I thought Birlingham Parish Council might be interested in the information below, as this would almost certainly result in a huge increase in overflying to surrounding villages.

Affiliation to the British Parachute Association and clearance as a drop zone has been approved by the BPA for the airstrip at Croft Farm Defford. Croft Farm has a poor planning record, they expanded their operation greatly without permission and had to go for retrospective which they got with limits on aircraft movements, and also built a couple of supposedly agricultural sheds which are used as hangers without permission. They are the source of much of the low level light aircraft that pass over on a nice day and instruct their pilots to take off and turn right over the hill to avoid upsetting their neighbours in Defford. A parachute centre would give us a pretty constant source of noise all weekend, so we might wish to get involved at an early stage, if they run static line student operations it would mean an aircraft circling at 3000 ft, freefall would be 10-12,000ft probably with something a great deal larger and louder. They would need planning permission as it is not included in the certificate of lawfulness they got in retrospect for their flying, and have not applied to Wychavon - in view of past experience they may try to go forward without.

regards, Kate Collingwood
Great Comberton

Google Dave Skinner parachute [Linkedin entry](#)