

# Birlingham Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 19 March 2014

at Birlingham Village Hall

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## **Councillors:**

Councillor Morris  
Councillor Aston  
Councillor Comins  
Councillor Hill  
Councillor New

## **Other Representatives:**

District Councillor Davis  
Tree Warden Stuart Crowther  
PACT Chris Reynard

## **Present:**

Alan Bradley  
Steven Conder  
Ian Yates

## **Welcome**

## **Apologies for absence:**

None

### **1. Notice of the casual vacancy (expired Monday 17 March)**

(Note: Vacancy on the council has first to be posted on the notice board. 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 by-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 Wychavon District Council has been told about the two vacancies. The Parish Council was notified that no by-election was called and that the Parish Council could co-opt to fill the vacancies.

### **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.

(Note: 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 Previous Meeting**

The Minutes of the meeting held 15 January 2014, a copy of which had been circulated to all Councillors, were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

### **4. Democratic Opening**

Appendix <sup>1</sup>

### **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 Act)

There had been four nominations for co-option following the resignation of Councillors Tony Hall and Charlotte Butler. The three candidates present were welcomed and asked not to take any decisions personally. It was wonderful to have parishioners interested. There would be two rounds of voting. Attendees were asked to leave the room while the vote took place.

Ian Yates and Steve Conder were welcomed as new Councillors. Alan Bradley was thanked for his interest in wishing to be part of the Parish Council and advised that this co-option was for a year until the District Council nominations in May 2015. He was told of the 'Neighbourhood Plan' idea and should he be interested this was something to get involved with as the impact would be there for years to come. Alan thanked everyone for allowing him to participate and be considered and he congratulated Ian and Steve with their roles.

The Parish Council retains a full complement.

## **6. Resignations/Thank yous**

A letter of thanks has been sent to Tony Hall for his service on the Parish Council and for acting as Chair for over ten years. An email was also sent to Charlotte Butler for her work on the Council. Charlotte had returned a message of thanks and said how much she enjoyed being on the Council.

## **7. Progress Reports**

- a) Footpaths: none
- b) District Councillor
  - i. Wychavon have signed off the budgets.
  - ii. swdp – 3 Councils have agreed up to 4,000 homes. Wychavon may take the brunt.
  - iii. Superfast Broadband coming in December to neighbouring areas.
  - iv. Not able to take the report for The Old Coach House to planning committee. The Committee are looking at changes to reduce items on the agenda anyway. Maybe starting earlier for example in the morning and site visits on a different day. Councillor Davis would let us know if this progressed.

The members were disappointed that the application wasn't heard in public. This isn't trivial for a small parish although insignificant to a committee. Concerned that this was approved when a nearby site was appealed. Understand time is difficult but nevertheless a debate should be held. The members felt the planning officer had answered their questions fairly but it was wrong that he had last say and the site could potentially increase in size i.e. garages Permitted development removed on new but not old site.

Councillor Davis was thanked for his time but members would prefer debateable items to be in public.

If Councillor Davis felt if there was a justifiable reason he would take an application to committee.

Paper copies of planning applications for consultation would not be available from 1 April. This was a cost cutting exercise. Councillor Davis was questioned on this. Without internet access this was a backward step. The hall for example had no access/signal. It was agreed by Councillor Davis that he could request a copy of plans if important.

Councillor Davis apologised on the County Councillors behalf saying he was extremely busy. The Chairman thanked Councillor Davis for his time and attendance.

- c) County Councillor - absent
- d) Clerk- see Appendix <sup>2</sup>

## **8. Planning**

- a) Current applications pending - none

- b) Applications granted / refused
  - i) W/13/02469/PN – erection of a dwelling  
Land within and adjacent to The Old Coach House, The Avenue  
Approved 3 March

Members were upset that they were ignored on the consultation process. Councillor Comins was thanked for his input and accommodating the meeting. Still some surprise on the archaeological consideration. Aware now for future consultation of a Conservation Champion, Adrian Darby.

## 9. Financial Matters

- a) Bank Balance: £3,321.46 at 20 February 2014.
- b) Accounts for 2013/2014 were resolved. There will be an increase in reserves of £450.00 which means the reserves are gradually increasing as forecast. It was noted that the precept was £4,800 rather than £5,000 (due to Wychavon District Council taking back a top up they gave last year to allow the Parish its budget amount).
- c) Receipts: none  
Payments:
  - i. £35.98 – website domain renewal 23/1/13- 23/1/14 (cheque number 298)
- d) Future Payments:
  - i. £170.00 Lengthsman (Nov – Jan)
  - ii. £100.00 Lengthsman (Feb)
  - iii. PAYE HM Revenues & Customs – January, February, March
  - iv. Clerk's pay
  - v. Clerk's expenses
  - vi. Village Hall contribution
- e) Internal auditor for 2013/14 has been approached. Councillor Morris to get a bank statement. Grant Thornton audit papers have been received.
- f) Cancellation of cheque number 297 – deposit for litter pick no longer required.

## 10. Website

Discussion on the future of the website and the proposals put forward. The Parish Council had set up the site but it wasn't meant to be running things. It had grown into a village website and needed to be passed on as a separate organisation 'reporting' its activities to the Parish Council on a regular basis. It was proposed and agreed that it should act independently of the Parish Council and be run by an independent 'website group' (to be abbreviated in notes as W.I.G.)

The Parish Council will retain ownership of the domain name, Birlingham.org

From 1 April the Group will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the website, for its design and content. The W.I.G. will be responsible for all financial aspects of the site, including payment of annual fees. In the first instance, any profits (made from advertising) will be passed to the Jubilee Committee and will be distributed to village organisations.

The Parish Council will always have its own pages, accessible directly from the Home page and will be wholly responsible for their design, content and maintenance.

The W.I.G. will initially comprise of John Hill, June Hiden, and Steve Morris but other members may be added as the need arises.

The W.I.G. will also be responsible for the village emails. These changes will not have any immediate effect from a practical point of view but it is hoped that in the future more people will become involved in the running of the website.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their support.

## 11. Village email

Discuss action for the future. The long-term maintenance of the email news? This is linked to the village website as stated above and otherwise difficult to separate out. The W.I.G. will be responsible for the village email news.

There was a compliment from Treetops Nursery who felt the email news made them feel involved.

## 12. Neighbourhood Plans

Letter by Councillor Comins was agreed as an excellent draft which could be distributed once formatted. The Chairman would print. Everyone to help with distribution. Once the responses are back and assessed it can be ascertained if a meeting could be called. The meeting must be publicised well with signage where necessary.

## 13. Defford Parachute Club

Email received on 18 March from Clive Porter responds to an email attached Appendix 3, quotes

"Re: the message from Great Comberton. This is completely erroneous. "Defford Parachute Club" does not exist, and never will ! What happened was : an RAF parachute instructor made enquiries and before we had made any decisions and without our knowledge, applied for permission for a "Drop Zone". The outcome is: he has now withdrawn his ideas and moved on. No need for anyone to panic!

Incidentally, we do conform to all planning rules.

It is remarkable, that in the 40 years the airstrip at Croft Farm has been operational, only one person has ever complained. This from a village over 3 miles away (as the crow flies). The prevailing wind being Westerly, aircraft usually take off over the empty land of old Airfield/ Defford Common. If they take off Easterly, the rule is to turn so as to avoid all local villages. Approaching to land is often almost silent. By the time 3 miles is covered after take-off, the aircraft will be at least 1000 ft. There are small aircraft around almost anywhere, so many, over any village, may be nothing whatever to do with the airstrip here.

If people have concerns, it would be appreciated if they approached us rather than try to cause upset and bad feeling to third parties. We are always ready to listen".

Members believe that Eckington is a no-fly zone.

Mr Porter comments were noted. No further discussion took place following the confirmation that a proposed club was not agreed.

## 14. Trees / Hedges / Jubilee Wood

Discuss. There was no excuse for the substantial damage caused to the 8 year old chestnut. There should be some compensation. Could we ask Porters/Revills for their advice on protection? What about wooden barriers? How do we work together? Every year there is damage to trees.

The Clerk suggested that questions be forwarded from members and Porters/Revills could be asked to comment. They were willing to have a meeting with a Councillor/Clerk to discuss any issues and this would take things forward.

## 15. Jubilee Committee

The decision to form a permanent Jubilee Committee.

The people who were involved in the Jubilee events last year have unanimously agreed with the formation of a permanent Jubilee Committee. The Committee comprises Steve Morris (Chairman), John Hill (Treasurer), June Hiden (Secretary), Cathy Brunet, David Kew, Chris Herman and Maxine Cook, who were the main organisers of last year's events. Additional members will be co-opted on a temporary or permanent basis, as and when necessary. Current signatories to the Birlingham Jubilee account are John Hill, June Hiden and Maxine Cook.

The aims of the Jubilee Committee are:

1. To provide funds for the future maintenance of the Jubilee Wood, to monitor its progress and to take whatever action is necessary to ensure its survival. It would take responsibility for the Wood.

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2. To provide funds (as loans) to invest in future events that will benefit the whole village.
3. To be involved in the organisation of village-wide events, as appropriate.

With respect to the Wood, the Jubilee Committee will take responsibility for making an agreement with the landowner, for securing a tree preservation order (TPO), for placing a plaque and for the future maintenance and funding of the Wood.

The Jubilee Committee will continue to report on its activities to the Parish Council and it is to be hoped that the Parish Council will continue to show a keen interest in both the Committee and the Jubilee Wood. The Jubilee Committee's activities and use of funds will also be reported on the Birlingham website.

It was agreed by all members.

## 16. Training

CALC sessions. Councillors/Clerk attendance and costs were reported. Any Councillors wishing to attend to notify Clerk. Clerk to attend one session. Budget accounted for.

## 17. Councillors' reports and items for next agenda

- PACT – email reference:

Hello All,

Firstly please accept my apologies for not contacting some of you sooner regarding upcoming meetings.

I had every intention of contacting you but with the loss of Simon Williams to Warwickshire Police and the unwanted increase in burglaries and catalytic convertor thefts and some sickness leave on my behalf, both myself and Sean have had to prioritise and intensify patrols and enquiries in the areas required. This has obviously meant that other issues such as PACT have not been addressed due to work demand.

Sean and I have discussed how PACT can move on in the future and to work effectively we believe that PACT panel members will have to take a more proactive role in organising and chairing the meetings. Due to everyone's commitments we feel that this could even be done via email as a virtual meeting.

It may also mean that whilst we have 3 PACT panels within the South of the area perhaps this could be condensed down to one.

We have maintained contact with all the Parish Councils and are not aware of any major issues which need to be drawn to the attention of the PACT members other than the increase in burglaries which we are addressing. If any of you have any issues you wish to raise or have any comments on the idea of how we move PACT forward please send your emails to [persherural.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk](mailto:pershorerural.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk).

Unfortunately I will now be on long term sick leave, in the meantime the area will continue to be covered by Sean with the assistance of Dave James and Lucy Morris from Pershore, there will also be a new PCSO for the area who will hopefully be in situ within the near future. So please rest assured that the area will still be actively covered by local policing.

Apologies once again.

Regards,

*Julie Pardoe*

*Police Community Support Officer*

*Pershore Rural North & South Safer Neighbourhood Team*

- CALC – cheque payments. Consideration on electronic payments.
- Litter pick at Nafford – a further litter pick around Nafford has been suggested. Include on the village email to measure of interest.
- It was proposed and agreed that a gift was appropriate for the hard work and commitment Stuart Crowther had done over the years.

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- The Lengthsman Scheme for 2014/15 had been received and the funding for the next financial year had been agreed by Worcestershire County Council. Birlingham parish would receive the same amount as the previous year. Copy to be given to Carl Brassington.
- The heating in the hall was still not working. This had been the same since November's meeting. The BVH Chairman had been made aware.

**18. Closure** with nothing further to discuss the meeting closed at 9.10pm.

The Annual Parish meeting is on Wednesday 21 May at 7.00pm and the Parish Council meeting at 7.45pm.

**Signed:** ..... **Councillor Steve Morris, Chairman**

**Date:** .....

### Appendix 1: Democratic Opening

**Trees** – Stuart would remain as Warden until the May meeting. He couldn't be persuaded to remain as the Tree Warden. He had reconsidered but still would go having done 14 years as Tree Warden. He said it was time for new blood. He would come to the May meeting and bring along his nominated alternative and replacement, Karl Grimston. He said Karl was an accomplished carpenter who had a good knowledge of trees and would be well suited to the role.

Stuart would take Karl to meet Worcestershire County Council and the Tree Council for an education process.

Stuart produced a comprehensive schedule of planted trees, including species, age, location, damage caused and remarks. There were also some tree planted along Church Street and those by Severn Trent (before the wood was created).

The Chairman and members thanked Stuart for his time and the detailed report he had produced. Everyone had appreciated his help.

**FACT** – Chris Reynard reported that it was reasonably quiet. An email had been received; see reports. The next meeting was in April. The Chairman thanked Chris and said it was appreciated that he spent his time representing Birlingham.

### Appendix 2: Clerks Report

#### News e-mail

##### [Birlingham News 39](#)

Tomorrow is the last day for commenting on the County Council's plan to cut the 382 evening bus service.

In this issue:

1. Bus Service 382
2. Burn's Night at the Swan, 25th January
3. Rose Wood
4. Parish Council, 15th January
5. Food Bin Collections

#### 1. Bus Service 382

The closing date for comments on the County Council's proposal to end the 382 service on Friday and Saturday evenings is this Friday (17th January). To respond to the consultation, complete the electronic questionnaire at

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[www.worcestershire.gov.uk/researchweb/transport/subsidisedbusservices.htm](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/researchweb/transport/subsidisedbusservices.htm) or email [busservicereview@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:busservicereview@worcestershire.gov.uk).

#### 4. Parish Council, 15th January

At the meeting of Birlingham Parish Council this week the following decisions were made:

- Following the resignation from the Parish Council of Tony Hall, Steve Morris was elected Chairman. Tony was thanked for his eight years' service to the Council. A casual vacancy will now be advertised.
- The Council Tax precept for 2013/14 was confirmed as £5,000.00 (with no increase from the current year). This gives a Band D Council Tax figure of £29.59.
- The Council has decided to look into the possibility of a Neighbourhood Plan for Birlingham and all residents will be consulted on the idea over the next few weeks.

The next meeting of the Parish Council is on Wednesday 19th March.

#### 5. Food Bin Collections

As many of you will have noticed this week, collection of the grey food bins has now stopped, as part of Wychavon District Council's cutbacks. You are encouraged to use compost bins or other recycling methods for your food waste. Anything you cannot recycle should be included in your black wheelie bin. The District Council have said you may keep your grey bins.

The refuse collection calendar for 2013 is available at [www.birlingham.org/docs/bin\\_collections\\_2013.pdf](http://www.birlingham.org/docs/bin_collections_2013.pdf)

#### [Birlingham News 40](#)

This month sees plenty of new opportunities in the village – details below.

In this issue:

1. Fitness Training Classes
2. Bulb Teas & Bulb Sunday, 23rd February
3. Parish Council Vacancy

#### 3. Parish Council Vacancy

Following the resignation of Tony Hall, there is now a vacancy on Birlingham Parish Council. When a vacancy occurs, it must be advertised for a period of 14 days, during which electors can ask for an election to be held. If at least ten electors do not request an election, the Parish Council can co-opt a new member.

If no election has been requested for the current vacancy, the Council will co-opt a new member at their next meeting on Wednesday 19th March. If you would like more information on the Parish Council and its role, and how you can apply to become a councillor, please email the Clerk at [birlingham\\_clerk@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:birlingham_clerk@yahoo.co.uk).

#### [Birlingham News 41](#)

Plans are in progress for several events this year and details of how you can get involved are given below.

In this issue:

1. Valentine's Night at the Swan, 14th February
2. Village Litter Pick, 15th March
3. Birlingham War Memorial and Roll of Honour
4. Village Day Out

#### 2. Village Litter Pick, 15th March

The annual litter pick around the village has been provisionally booked for Saturday 15th March (weather permitting). If you can spare an hour, please come along and help. This is our opportunity to make the village tidy for the summer.

Litter-picking equipment is provided and we will meet on the village green at 10.00am.

#### 3. Birlingham War Memorial and Roll of Honour

As part of the commemoration of the hundredth anniversary of the start of the First World War, the Bystander is proposing to include an article on the residents of Birlingham who were killed in the war and whose names are listed on the War Memorial. This information is being compiled by Chris Reynard.

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It is also hoped to research those who returned from the two World Wars and are listed in the Roll of Honour in the church. A volunteer is needed to co-ordinate the research, so if you would like to help with this task, please contact Edward Farrar at erfarrar@homecall.co.uk.

(Thanks are due to Ed Walden for suggesting the idea.)

Some of this information has already been recorded on the 'Remember the Fallen' website, which provides details of Worcestershire war memorials and the people listed on them. The website has pages for the War Memorial

([www.rememberthefallen.co.uk/Casualties/ListByMemorial/Birlingham%20War%20Memorial](http://www.rememberthefallen.co.uk/Casualties/ListByMemorial/Birlingham%20War%20Memorial)), the Roll of Honour

([www.rememberthefallen.co.uk/Casualties/ListByMemorial/Birlingham%20St%20James's%20Church](http://www.rememberthefallen.co.uk/Casualties/ListByMemorial/Birlingham%20St%20James's%20Church)) and the Memorial Window

([www.rememberthefallen.co.uk/Casualties/ListByMemorial/Birlingham%20St%20James's%20Church%20Memorial%20Window](http://www.rememberthefallen.co.uk/Casualties/ListByMemorial/Birlingham%20St%20James's%20Church%20Memorial%20Window)).

### [Birlingham News 42](#)

It's all happening at the moment: Bulb Sunday coming up, the Jubilee Room meeting postponed, another vacancy on the Parish Council and troops in the area.

In this issue:

1. Bulb Sunday, 23rd February
2. Meeting to Discuss Church Jubilee Room, 22nd March
3. Parish Council Second Vacancy
4. Flooding Preparations

### [3. Parish Council Second Vacancy](#)

Following the resignation of Charlotte Butler (who is moving to Cheltenham), there is now a second vacancy on Birlingham Parish Council. If no election is called for, the Council will co-opt a new member at their next meeting on Wednesday 19th March.

If you would like more information on the Parish Council and its role, and how you can apply to become a councillor, please email the Clerk, June Hiden, at [birlingham\\_clerk@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:birlingham_clerk@yahoo.co.uk).

### [4. Flooding Preparations](#)

The following message was received on Friday from Phil Merrick, Head of Community Services at Wychavon District Council:

"We have been asked to deploy some troops today in the district as part of their wider deployment across the county and the West Mercia area in response to the recent flooding.

"Please do not be alarmed if you see military vehicles in your parishes and wards tomorrow. They will be visiting Wick, Bredon, Tibberton and Droitwich to deliver sandbags. This is purely a precautionary measure in case the weather conditions deteriorate over the next few days and is being targeted to provide support to communities badly affected by flooding in 2007. Please let your communities know that the presence of the army today is intended to provide reassurance and not alarm.

"The reality is that our district is not at a critical level at the moment but we are, of course, fully co-operating with the wish to have the military presence on the ground.

"For further information about flooding advice and support can I direct you to the following link on our website:

[www.wychavon.gov.uk/cms/communications/news/2014/january/flooding-information.aspx](http://www.wychavon.gov.uk/cms/communications/news/2014/january/flooding-information.aspx)."

### [Birlingham News 43](#)

Welcome to the second anniversary edition of the Birlingham village email. Over the last year we have covered 100 events and other items of interest; please keep them coming. This week we welcome to the subscription list a former resident, now living in New Zealand.

In this issue:

1. Cuppa & Chat, 5th March
2. Village Litter Pick, 15th March
3. Pershore Food Bank
4. Indian Head Massage
5. Planning Applications

## 2. Village Litter Pick, 15th March

The annual litter pick has been confirmed for Saturday 15th March. Please join us for our Communities Against Litter effort and help us to create a tidy village.

Litter-picking equipment is provided. Meet on the village green at 10.00am.

## 3. Pershore Food Bank

The Trussell Trust ([www.trusselltrust.org](http://www.trusselltrust.org)) is working in partnership with Pershore Benefice to create a Food Bank for Pershore. Although the website says that the Pershore Food Bank is still under development, food is already being collected and distributed to about 40 Pershore families, who find themselves in need of a little extra support whilst they get through difficult times.

If you would like to make a donation of food, either tinned or packet, please drop whatever you can spare in to Angela Fitch at 3 King William IV Close (off Church Street) – just leave it in the porch if Angela is out. All donations will be delivered to the Food Bank in Pershore on a weekly basis. Unfortunately, fresh, chilled and frozen foods can't be taken, as the Food Bank lacks storage facilities for these, but all other contributions are very gratefully received.

## 5. Planning Applications

The following planning application has been determined by Wychavon District Council:

- **The Old Coach House:** Erection of a dwelling (Case No. 13/02469). **Approved.** Full details and conditions can be viewed on the Wychavon DC website at [www.e-wychavon.org.uk/pl/pl.exe?cs=13/02469](http://www.e-wychavon.org.uk/pl/pl.exe?cs=13/02469). The Parish Council comments are available at [www.birlingham.org/pc\\_info/pc\\_comments\\_13\\_02469.pdf](http://www.birlingham.org/pc_info/pc_comments_13_02469.pdf)

## [Birlingham News 44](#)

Next week sees the bi-monthly Parish Council meeting, at which a number of important issues will be debated and two new councillors will be co-opted.

In this issue:

1. Village Litter Pick, 15th March
2. Parish Council, 19th March
3. Meeting to Discuss Improved Facilities at St James's Church, 22nd March
4. Mothering Sunday at the Swan, 30th March
5. Evening Fete, 6th June

## 1. Village Litter Pick, 15th March

A final reminder that the annual village litter pick will take place this Saturday 15th March. If you can spare an hour, please join us to tidy up the village. Meet on the village green at 10.00am.

## 2. Parish Council, 19th March

The next meeting of Birlingham Parish Council is on Wednesday 19th March at 7.45pm in Birlingham Village Hall. Among other items on the agenda, the Council will be co-opting two new members, considering action to claim compensation for Parish Council trees destroyed by hedge trimmers and discussing an application by Defford Parachute Club to use the airstrip at Defford as a drop zone.

The Agenda for the meeting is available at [www.birlingham.org/pc\\_info/pc\\_agenda\\_2014-03-19.pdf](http://www.birlingham.org/pc_info/pc_agenda_2014-03-19.pdf) and the minutes of the last meeting on 15th January are available at [www.birlingham.org/pc\\_info/pc\\_minutes\\_2014-01-15.pdf](http://www.birlingham.org/pc_info/pc_minutes_2014-01-15.pdf).

## [Birlingham News 45](#)

Information is requested on any suspicious activity seen in the village over the weekend.

In this issue:

1. Solar Panel Theft
2. Village Litter Pick

## 2. Village Litter Pick

Thank you to all those who took part in the Village Litter Pick on Saturday, ensuring that the village is once more free of rubbish. The accumulated pile was considerably smaller than last year's, so there has been some improvement over the year.

Photos of the day will shortly be available online at [www.birlingham.org/village/gallery/gallery\\_av\\_14.htm](http://www.birlingham.org/village/gallery/gallery_av_14.htm).

### **Casual Vacancy Notice**

17 January – email received with attached letter dated Monday 20th January. Also put a hard copy in the post from Louise J A Bennett, Electoral & Customer Services Officer, Wychavon District Council

REPLY: letter received and Councillors notified confirming that there has not been a request from ten electors for an election to take place and that the Council can co-opt a replacement member.

**Precept** - application form returned to Wychavon District Council.

### **BVH request**

**Edward Farrar to Clerk** 22 January

Quotes, "I have not received recent copies of the Parish Council Minutes. I do have some problems with my e-mails from time to time and wonder if you have sent them and I have "lost" them or has the PC decided not to let the BVH have copies? I hope you have received the BVH Minutes".

**Clerk to BVH secretary Edward Farrar** 26 January

Quotes, "I attach the November minutes. I should have sent them to you but seem to have overlooked it. I think I assume that most people look at the PC website and the agendas and minutes are all on there. My apologies I will continue to send them once they are accepted at the meetings. Thank you for the copies of the BVH minutes.

Is it a separate comment about the Remembrance Day hire of the hall? For note : the only involvement the PC had was a request that Tony Hall, as Chairman, should lay the wreath. Everything else was instigated (as I believe) by the church warden so I was surprised to hear that the hall had been offered free of charge afterwards. I assumed that was a gesture of goodwill. It was not discussed at any PC meeting".

**Edward Farrar to Clerk** 26 January

Quotes "Many thanks for the Minutes, I will forward them to the VH committee. I am not sure, but assume that Harry made arrangements with Mary Sadler for the use of the VH on Remembrance Day. Pleased to hear that Steve is your new Chair, I am sure he will do a great job".

**Public Speaking at Planning Committee** circulated to all Councillors

**David Hammond, Housing and Planning Services Manager** 22 January

Quotes, "As you may be aware the Wychavon District Council is currently undertaking a trial for a six month period for a dedicated public speaking slot for parish councils at Planning Committee meetings. The trial started in September 2013 and finishes at the end of March 2014. Before the end of the trial I have been tasked with reporting to the Planning Committee on how effective the dedicated slot has been and whether this is something that should be continued with. I would therefore be pleased to receive any comments your parish council has on this issue and whether they have found it useful and would they support the continuation of a dedicated speaking slot for parish councils? As the report is likely to go to the Planning Committee meeting in March can I ask for any comments to be with me within the next 21 days".

### **Superfast Worcestershire - January Newsletter**

**Ron Davis to Clerk and circulated to all Councillors** 28 Jan from Superfast Worcestershire [mailto:Superfast@worcestershire.gov.uk]

Dear Broadband Supporter

Worcestershire County Council and partners are continuing the drive to bring access to Superfast Broadband to Worcestershire. The Superfast Worcestershire programme was officially launched yesterday. Key stakeholders were invited to a launch event to provide them with the latest information about the high-speed fibre roll out across Worcestershire. Please find included January's [Superfast Worcestershire newsletter](#), within this is the latest anticipated deployment map for the programme with background referencing points. The Latest media release is also available.

The new Superfast Worcestershire website was also launched yesterday: [www.superfastworcestershire.com](http://www.superfastworcestershire.com), which includes a postcode and line checker as well as an

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interactive map. The website provides local information which will be regularly updated as more detail is known on phases as the programme progresses. Please note, if on the interactive map or postcode checker your exchange currently shows no superfast fibre activity it does not necessarily mean you will not be upgraded as part of the programme, please refer to the 'anticipated deployment and expected coverage' map for detail beyond the next 12 months.

Many thanks for your continued support.  
Kind regards,  
The Broadband Team

**Parish Councils – localism in action event** - 26 March 2014  
Sent 6 Feb from WDC

Dear Parish/Town Clerk

I'm contacting you with some good news about the New Homes Bonus and to invite your parish/town council to come to our Parish councils - localism in action event on 26 March 2014 from 6.00-8.15pm at the Civic Centre in Pershore.

New Homes Bonus update

In December we received the welcome news that the government will not now go ahead with its proposal to top-slice New Homes Bonus (NHB) from 2015/16 and pool it through Local Enterprise Partnerships. A big thank you to all the Wychavon parish and town councils who responded to the consultation on the government's proposals last summer.

This week our Executive Board made some decision about the future use of the NHB grant we receive from the government. You can see the report [here](#)<Future%20use%20of%20NHB%20EB%2004%2002%2014.pdf>. I'm pleased to tell you that there is good news for Wychavon parish and town councils. We will launch a new NHB Protocol at the event next month and publish year 4 allocations on our website, but in the meantime here are the headlines:

Years 2 and 3 New Homes Bonus

- We will continue with our commitment to allocate up to 40% of years 2 and 3 NHB to parish and town councils in the areas that have experienced growth.
- We are making a few amendments to the rules, including not considering advance payments, apart from in very exceptional circumstances.
- This means that after 1 April 2014 most parishes will be able to draw down another year's worth of their year 2 and year 3 NHB allocations.

Years 4 and 5 NHB

- We will allocate up to 40% of years four and five NHB to parish and town councils in the areas that have experienced growth as a result of new homes being built and occupied. Empty homes brought back into use will be excluded.
- In order to make the overall scheme affordable, there will be a sliding scale for allocations of over £50,000. Affected parishes and towns would receive 40% of the first £50,000, 20% of the next £50,000 and 10% of anything over £100,000.
- We are introducing a number of new rules for years four and five allocations, which we'll explain in the new protocol and at the event.
- From 1 April 2014, parishes will have the first years' worth of their year 4 allocations available to draw down.

Parish councils - localism in action event: 26 March

From creating neighbourhood plans and running services, to spending New Homes Bonus and nominating or buying assets of community value, the role and influence of parish councils is changing. This event will cover a range of localism-related topics and will include advice and practical examples about how parish and town councils can make the most of the opportunities created by the Localism Act. As well as an update on the New Homes Bonus, the event will include:

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Assets of community value: what they are, how to nominate them, what's already been nominated in Wychavon.

Allocation of affordable housing: our new approach to allocating affordable housing and the role parishes can play in identifying new affordable housing sites in rural areas.  
Rural communities programme: supporting parish councils that want to play a greater role in supporting vulnerable people in their communities and reducing social isolation.  
Attracting people to become parish councillors: free resources and tips on attracting people to stand as a parish/town councillors.

Please let me know by Monday 17 March whether you would like to attend, numbers are restricted to two people per parish/town council. A programme will be sent out about a week before.

Tracy Perkins, Partnership Support Officer

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Worcestershire CALC Wychavon Area** held on 5 December 2013 were circulated to all Councillors.

**Cotswolds Conservation Board Annual Forum - 7 March**

Circulated to all Councillors.

Quotes, "Dear Parish Clerk

I have pleasure in inviting you to the Cotswolds Conservation Board Annual Forum 2014 which will be taking place on Friday 7 March, from 9.30am, at the Manor House Hotel, Moreton-in-Marsh.

This year, the theme of the Forum will be focused around planning and development in the Cotswolds AONB and we have a diverse range of speakers and planning-related topics to help generate and encourage wide discussion. For full details of the programme and all of our speakers, please go to: [www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/annualforum](http://www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/annualforum)

Please do pass this invitation on to your colleagues if you feel it would be of interest. I do hope you will be able to attend and I look forward to hearing from you.

With best wishes, Nicola Greaves, Information & Interpretation Officer, Cotswolds Conservation Board".

Councillor John Comins has booked onto the forum.

**Bulb Sunday** letter received from Harry Porter asking that the service be advertised in the village news email.

**CALC Issue 4 - E Petition: Amend the National Planning Policy Framework**

A message from the clerk to Welford on Avon Parish Council in Warwickshire follows:

"You will no doubt be familiar with the rapidly growing number of opportunistic housing development proposals being submitted in many rural communities throughout the country. You will also be aware of the enormous difficulty in resisting inappropriate planning applications without a core strategy in place or an identified 5 year supply of developable land. Even if applications are refused by the Local Planning Authority, there is a likelihood that they will be allowed at appeal as a result of the presumption of sustainable development.

As you may know the MP for Stratford on Avon, Mr Nadhim Zahawi, has spoken out strongly against the damage being done to rural communities. The Daily Telegraph of 9th January reported him as saying that loopholes in the guidelines are allowing developers to "undermine the Government's good intentions to deliver bottom-up planning and much needed housing" and that the "physical harm" being inflicted on the countryside could become "the defining legacy of this Government".

Unfortunately, whilst Mr Zahawi has a great deal support for his opinions, both regionally and at Westminster, the Government is not listening and seems determined to press ahead with its current policy despite the widespread irreversible damage that will ensue.

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We believe that Mr Zahawi's stance should be given public support and that with three simple amendments to the planning policy the Government's objective of building more homes can be achieved without the creation of a damaging legacy.

**Overview and Scrutiny Member Conduct Committee** – agenda circulated to all Councillors.

**Resignation of Charlotte** - Email received to officially hand in resignation.

**Clerk to Charlotte** quotes, "Dear Charlotte, I acknowledge your email regarding your resignation from the Parish Council. I would like to officially thank you for all your efforts and help over the past few years. Despite your work commitments and travelling you managed to still get to meetings even if you hadn't been home beforehand. I have looked back on my records and I think I am right in saying that you first joined the Council at the elections in May 2011. So many thanks for your contributions in the last three years. Best wishes to you and Amber".

**Litter Pick** - Birlingham Litter Pick 15 March

10 February originally requested a £50 deposit. Revised 28 February no deposit but disclaimer (however letter has not been corrected)

### **Communities Against Litter – Parish Litter Pick Scheme**

Wychavon District Council intends to continue the Parish Litter Pick Scheme, it has been decided that due to the current economic climate this service will be offered without the Bursary.

The intention is that the Parish Council will recruit a team of volunteers in its area, and carry out a systematic 'litter pick' of the Parish. Particular emphasis should be placed on hot spots where people congregate and on the peripheral areas that are not included within Wychavon's regular street cleaning programme. Parish Councils may recruit other organisations to carry out this work for them, however, the responsibility to administer the scheme lies with the Parish Council not the organiser of the litter pick. All communications will be addressed to the Parish Council.

Wychavon will provide clean up kits which can be borrowed from the Council during the period that the clean-up is taking place. A large kit suitable for 20 people or a smaller kit suitable for 10 people can be booked. The kits will consist of: 32" litter pickers, high visibility vests, gloves, collection sacks. All items should be clean, dry and returned to the Civic Centre Pershore along with any unused bags within 48 hours of the clean-up being completed.

We have twenty 'Kids Kits' which consist of a pair of Rigger leather palmed gloves (8-12 years), a Child's Medium High Visibility Vest, a 24" litter pick which are contained in a red nylon bag. As only twenty are available it will mean that they will be issued on a first come first serve basis. Please indicate clearly on the Agreement Form whether you require any of these kits (which will be issued as a full kit and not separated) and change the number of small and large kits required as appropriate.

The Parish Council is responsible for returning the kits complete and in good order. Parish Councils will be charged for the cost of damaged or missing equipment plus an administration fee.

In carrying out the litter-pick, the Parish Council should consult the Health and Safety advice and the do's and don'ts advice which are enclosed with this letter and will be responsible for carrying out their own risk assessment.

To register for the Litter Pick please complete the attached agreement form and disclaimer and provide a copy of your Public Liability Insurance. Please return the forms with a cheque for the deposit, least a week before your intended litter pick to ensure the equipment is available. The disclaimer can be returned after the litter pick with the equipment, however it must be signed by the volunteer/s before they start the litter pick.

At the completion of the clean-up, Wychavon will arrange to collect the full bags from an agreed central point.

I hope that your Parish is able to take up this offer. If you have any queries regarding this matter, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely  
Client Services

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THANKS TO Attendees who were:

Ann Maxwell  
Steven Conder  
Linda and Alex Byrne  
Steve Morris  
Daphne and John Hill  
Steve Diston  
Mark and Alice Adams  
June Hiden  
Tony Hall

Members repeated the thanks again during the meeting. There appeared to be less litter – rubbish rather than litter!

**Parish Council comments** 27 Feb from Housing & Planning Support Manager, Wychavon District Council

For clerks who currently submit to [planning@wychavon.gov.uk](mailto:planning@wychavon.gov.uk), please would you change and send them to: [planningapplicationcomment@wychavon.gov.uk](mailto:planningapplicationcomment@wychavon.gov.uk) instead and in addition please continue to copy in to the planning officer. However, for clerks who prefer to submit directly through the website via the planning application, please continue to do so.

**Posting of paper copies (PLANNING APPLICATIONS) TO PARISH AND TOWN COUNCILS TO CEASE FROM 1ST APRIL 2014** Further to previous correspondence relating to the above. I have been asked to send a little reminder to you all that the paper plans we currently send out to you in the post will cease from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014. [Housing & Planning Support Manager](#)

[Roger Dean](#) 7 March

To 'Gore, Rebecca and 'Parish Town Clerks' copy Richard Levett

Further to your e-mail, the council have met and have asked me to register their strongest objection to this change, I have to say that some of them don't possess a computer, how would you suggest we get them to view the plans? Has any contingency been thought of? Also how will we display the plans at PC meetings as members of the public will also want to view them?

I understand that this is all part of a general cost cutting exercise, but it would appear that these costs including additional time is now just being passed onto Clerks and in turn Parish Councils and ultimately the residents in the form of increased precept.

I see you say the cut off is 1<sup>st</sup> April – I presume this isn't a joke?

I'm sure Stock & Bradley isn't the only Council with this reaction to your decision, I look forward to hearing from you.

Richard, would you be good enough to establish what the position is of other District Councils in terms of distributing planning applications please.

Kind Regards Roger Dean

Clerk & RFO, Stock & Bradley Parish Council

**Birlingham Parish Register of Electors 2014** - Register published March 2014 will be held on file.  
Sent from: Louise J A Bennett, Electoral & Customer Services Officer

**Lloyds Bank** - Letter dated 25 February (received 1/3) confirmation that the mandate has been changed. Signatories are Steve Morris, Paula Aston and John Comins.

### **Neighbourhood Plan**

Letter sent out to the residents who originally showed an interest in the Parish Plan:

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John Freeth (Barncroft)  
Jude Rodrigues (Orchard Hill)  
Ian Yates (Lower Farm)  
Steve and Fran Cant (Whitehall Cottage)  
Alan Shaw (Calderstones)  
Steven Byrne (Manor House)

notifying them that the Parish Council are promoting a plan again.

**CALC** – Update 14-8 6 March

### ***E-bulletin for County Associations, National Council and member councils***

Quotes:

Parish and town councils in “Facing the Future” will have a pivotal role in delivering services in different ways through partnership working, clustering, collaboration and innovation for the benefit of the residents.

**A note from CLG:** The department of Communities and Local Government says: “The Local Audit and Accountability Act has now become law. The Act will bring about the closure of the Audit Commission <<http://www.audit-commission.gov.uk/>> and in its place create a new framework for local audit.

This will mean that parish councils can decide themselves how to procure their own audit services from 2017. The smallest authorities with an annual turnover not exceeding £25,000 will be exempt from routine audit and instead be asked to introduce a new transparency code.

It allows for parish polls to be modernized and provides new transparency measures, so citizens and the press have the right to film and tweet using social media from any local authority public meeting. It also strengthens the legal status of the Local Authority Publicity Code.

We will be writing out in the near future with more information about what these measures may mean for you in the parish sector and how you can be involved. In the meantime, please see our press notice for more information: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/royal-approval-for-new-law-to-deliver-12-billion-taxpayer-savings> <<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/royal-approval-for-new-law-to-deliver-12-billion-taxpayer-savings>>”

### **Rural Opportunities Bulletin March 2014**

A monthly bulletin facilitated by your membership of the Rural Services Network highlighting a selection of current funding, consultation and other opportunities

Supporting Communities in Neighbourhood Planning Programme – Department for Communities & Local Government DCLG has made £10.5 million available to provide support and grants to help areas across the country create Neighbourhood Plans. Two types of support are available:

- Direct support – advice and support, with an average value of equivalent to £9,500, tailored to meet the needs of supported neighbourhoods.
- Grant payments – up to £7,000 per neighbourhood area, to contribute to costs incurred by the group preparing a neighbourhood plan or order.

Grants must be spent before the end of 2014 and expressions of interest will open on the following dates: 25 February, 1 April, 1 May, 3 June and 1 July (future dates to be announced). Once the monthly applications limit is reached, the website will announce that applications for direct support have closed until the beginning of the following month. These same restrictions will apply every month for the remainder of the programme, but grant applications can be submitted at any time until the funds are exhausted <http://mycommunityrights.org.uk/neighbourhood-planning/>

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## **Training** - Bulletin for Clerks and Councillors – 6 March

Circulated to all councillors. From: Caroline Sutton (Administrator), Worcestershire County Association of Local Councils (CALC)

**BVH** Unconfirmed Minutes of the January Meeting of BVH received from secretary.

**Call Alarm Briefing** March 2014 - from Emma Matthews, Commissioning Manager, Vulnerable Adults - Joint Commissioning Unit, Worcestershire County Council Date: 06.03.2014

Dear Call Alarm Provider,

Re: Hardwired Call Alarms

As you will be aware, in 2012 the Council made a decision in principle to cease funding hardwired call alarm connections.

My email of October 2013 to you advised that the future of call alarm contracts, including hardwired, would be considered under the Council's Future Lives Programme, which was reviewing provision of Prevention, Early Help and other support for Adults and Young People services from 1st April 2014. It was subsequently decided that hardwired services would not be considered under Future Lives review but would not be funded beyond 31.03.2014 in line with the original 2012 decision to cease funding these services. However, dispersed and support elements would remain within the Future Lives Programme for consideration. I therefore confirm that all Council funding for hardwired connections you provide under contract with the Council will end on 31.03.2014.

If you would like to discuss any arrangements you make for ending the services(s) please contact Emma Matthews, Commissioning Manager (telephone 01905 822633 or email [ematthews2@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:ematthews2@worcestershire.gov.uk)). Please contact Emma if you identify anyone whose needs cannot be met by the provision that you as a provider are offering (the majority of providers have indicated that they intend to carry on offering hardwired alarms to residents) and would like an assessment for a funded dispersed call alarm or additional peripherals.

These individuals will then receive an assessment to see if their needs can be met with technology and if they are eligible for funding. No one should be left vulnerable so whilst they are waiting for an assessment we will look at each individual situation to see how best to support them in the short term.

I will contact you again regarding arrangements for ending payment as we will require some information from you to support this process. It is unlikely that this will be achieved in time of the next payment run, and we will therefore need to reclaim any overpayment from you at a later date.

Any Future Lives decision which may affect any dispersed or support services you provide under the contract will be communicated to you in due course. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries regarding this letter.

Annie Carter, Contracts Officer, Adult Services and Health Directorate

## **Safety at Street Works – refresher course**

[David Hunter to Clerk](#) 11 March

I am pleased to confirm that we have a Lengthsman training session booked for Tuesday 29th April. This is a half-day course starting at 9:00AM and it will be held at our Newland Highways depot in Malvern (see attached location plan).

If you wish to reserve a place on this course please let me know as soon as possible as places are limited.

[Clerk to David Hunter](#)

My lengthsman can't make a Tuesday as he has a regular work commitment on that day of the week. Could you however keep him on the list and when the next course becomes available hopefully he is able to reserve a place?

## **Trees and hedgerows**

[Clerk to Michael copy: James Reville, Wimpy Derbyshire and Tree Warden](#) 22 February 2014

Dear Michael In 2012 I wrote to you and James regarding the hedge cutting. Wimpy was also involved. In the last couple of years parishioners have planted a hedge along Broadway Road, have patched gaps in other hedgerows and have put in saplings to try to establish more trees in the village. All of these have been cared for by villagers and the tree warden in order to encourage wildlife and tree growth and to keep the hedgerows intact in the rural area. Can I ask again that

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more care is taken whilst cutting the hedge to avoid the new saplings and established trees being cut off? The frail on the tractor continues to turn and therefore the driver needs to be more vigilant. If necessary please leave the area around the trees and this can be cut by the lengthsman or residents who care for the trees. Last time I left the matter after discussion between ourselves but recently this has upset villagers again and the Tree Warden who has been patient and cared for the trees for many years has now resigned. The Tree Warden has done a good job volunteering and trying to look after the village trees. I think it's fair to say that he does try to maintain any that are put in by villagers which is why he gets abit cross when saplings and young trees are cut unnecessarily. I have attached photographs of 'the Avenue' below the church which was planted several years ago away from the hedge line with sweet chestnuts. One was cut last year leaving 3 branches instead of 5 and this year two have been completely cut off leaving on a couple of feet of trunk. I would ask that perhaps you could re-plant two replacement trees as a goodwill gesture. Meanwhile I will try to persuade the warden to reconsider his position or we have to find another volunteer. I am sure you support our environment reasons and the community spirit. You will be aware that Wimpy has been very supportive and given her land to a Millennium Wood which will be there for the future of the village. Please can we have more consideration when the hedge cutter does its job?

**Michael Porter** 7 March - Thank you for your email regarding trees in the village. I am very sorry to hear that the tree warden has resigned and am also sorry to see that a tree has been mulched by the hedge trimmer. I have spoken to the driver and was told that it was done by accident. I accept that accidents do happen occasionally. As farmers in the village I feel that we do take the responsibility as guardians of our bit of the countryside very seriously. We have planted, staked, watered, trimmed and pollarded hundreds of trees in and around the village of Birlingham for many years. I feel that we also do a good job of caring for the trees as they grow e.g. trimming lower branches that catch lorries or tractors. Thinning or even moving trees as they mature. It is now the wrong time of year to plant trees now but we will certainly be planting more in places that can accommodate them as they get bigger. I do however disagree with planting trees too close to gateways or driveways as this becomes a problem in later years.

Please would you pass on a reminder to people who live in Birlingham to take their garden waste away or compost it in their own garden, rather than dumping it in village hedge rows. This practice seems to have got worse recently and is unacceptable. If you would like to discuss any problems with trees or hedge trimming in the future, please would you call me.

**Clerk to Michael** 13 March - Thank you for responding. While appreciating the work the farm does to try and maintain its own hedges and trees, it still remains that an accident has destroyed two chestnut trees and careless driving has cut off several branches on the other chestnuts. I would have thought that replacing a couple of trees in the autumn would act as compensation and villagers would be made aware of your action. The matter is on the agenda for discussion at the Parish Council meeting next week. Would you like to add anything further to assist with the issue? It's not something to start a debate on and we know that everyone wants to work together as a community. We have spoken before about how the farm allows residents 'freedom' around its land which is great. However, it's abused by dog walkers either with fouling or going among the crops.

I would like to put an article in The Bystander regarding walkers. And also your issue of garden waste. With regard to garden waste / compost in hedgerows, I will certainly raise the issue at the next Parish Council if you can let me know separately on that issue (before next Wednesday). We will also need to know which hedgerows or locations have been particularly affected. I realise this is an offence and that matter can be made more official.

Let me have your reply and lets see what can be done.

**Michael Porter** 14 March - Perhaps I could suggest that it would be more beneficial for all concerned if we arranged to meet, sometime at your convenience, to discuss any issues you have regarding the trees and hedges in the village. Kind regards, Michael

**Voting at co-option** - There would be two rounds of voting.

**External Auditor** - Grant Thornton audit / paperwork received.

**Lenghsmen Scheme 2014/2105** - funding received for next financial year at £1,780.15. Contract to be returned.

**Litter in Birlingham** Clerk to James Revill 22 February

I last wrote to you regarding the litter in May 2012 after speaking with you whilst on the annual litter pick with other volunteers.

Can I just re-iterate and politely ask the farm to make sure the litter is picked up, particularly by the farm entrances and Short Hill. I still see occasions when field workers come away but their rubbish remains. The plastic from ground cover gets into the hedgerows and plastic vending cups are dropped on the road. Please remind employees/contractors to use bins or take the litter away with them.

We can't 'blame' the seasonal workers as they are not here at the moment although I have noticed the cigarette packets have ceased for now.

We have another litter pick in March.

I trust I can pass on a message from you to members of the Parish Council and villagers who have concerns.

**James Revill to Clerk** 17 March

As mentioned before we have procedures in place with all our staff regarding dealing with litter, we will continue to remind them regarding our litter procedures. During the summer time when we have seasonal workers living on site we made sure that at least monthly someone cleaned along the road by the farm.

We will also ensure that all harvest workers continue to clean up whilst on the fields.

Councillors commented that what 'we' consider cleared is not satisfied 'policing'.

### **Appendix 3: Email from Great Comberton**

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.

Great Comberton

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