

Birlingham Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 21 September 2016
at Birlingham Village Hall

Councillors:

Councillor Aston
Councillor Fitch
Councillor Hill
Councillor Morris
Councillor New
Councillor Yates

Present:

The Clerk and three residents

Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were tendered by Councillor Allen and accepted. Apologies were also given by the Footpath Warden, the Tree Warden and District Councillor Davis as he was scheduled with another meeting.

2. Register of Members' Interests and Signing of Dispensation

Councillor Paula Aston has signed her Register of Members' Interest form and it has been returned to Wychavon District Council.

All members are aware that they must renew their Interests as below in 3) a) as there is a legal obligation in the Localism Act to put the information on the Wychavon District Council website and the Parish Council tab on the parish website.

The Dispensation form is to be signed.

3. Declaration 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.
- d) Written requests for the Council to grant a dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011) are to be with the Clerk at least four clear days prior to a meeting.

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. Failure to register or declare a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest may be a criminal offence.

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on 16 July 2016, a copy of which has been circulated to all Councillors, were agreed as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

It is noted that the District Councillor's statement regarding the Wychavon District Council's reserves should read £46.3m not £45.85m.

Democratic Opening

The meeting was adjourned for public question time. *See appendix number 1*

5. Progress Reports

a) Footpaths

The following is a summary from Bruce Hayward:

- i. Footpath 506 (near Old Rectory) - cleared and re-defined (by landowner)
- ii. Footpath 511 (Withy Walk) - cleared and leak reported to landowner
- iii. Footpath 518 (Asham Lane) - grass cut
- iv. Footpath 519 (by The Almshouses) - fingerpost cleared

The Chairman wished it to be noted that Bruce be thanked for his hard work and congratulations were given on his recent marriage.

b) Tree Warden – none.

Councillor New wished to give two fruit trees to the Millennium Wood and the Clerk was asked to action.

c) District Councillor

Councillor Davis has sent a note in his absence to say that due to the summer break there were no updates.

d) County Councillor – Councillor Adrian Hardman was not present. The Clerk was asked to chase for an update on the matters concerning speeding, reducing speed limits and the red paint marking.

e) Clerk - *See appendix number 2*

6. Planning

a) Current applications pending

- i. W/16/01487/PP - Burnside, Whitehall Lane, Birlingham WR10 3AB
Removal of existing utility building to the rear and the conservatory. Extension of existing house to provide rear facing lounge, dining room and kitchen areas. Removal of existing redundant chimney stacks.

APPROVED 27 July

Parish Council comments: The Parish Council has no objection to the application

- ii. W/16/01600/PP - Emil, Whitehall Lane, Birlingham WR10 3AB
Erection of single storey side extension, conversion of garage and insert bay window to form third bedroom and insertion of 2no. sun pipes to eastern roof slope of bungalow.

APPROVED 26 August

Parish Council comments: No objection.

b) Current applications approved/refused

- i. NM/16/01524/NM – Paddock Barn, Broadway Road, Birlingham WR10 3AF
Notification of Minor Amendment upon previously approved planning W/13/01226/CU for minor revision to layout and fenestration.

Refused 20 July

Planning Officer states "I hereby refuse the following plans/information as a non-material amendment to the planning permission. The character of the "work" element of the scheme has been significantly altered by the addition of two bedrooms to serve the

treatment rooms compared to the one bedroom included in the original scheme (as shown on the submitted Proposed Plans and Elevations drawing).

As such, I would advise that a full planning application should be submitted should you wish the Council to formally consider the acceptability of the proposed amendment".

- c) Procedures/guidelines – Chairman has nearly completed the draft and would bring to the next meeting as a final draft.

7. Financial Matters

a) The Accounts for 2015/2016

i) Conclusion of the Audit

- Auditors Certificate Section 3
- Auditors report accompanying Section 3 – note for future approval regarding Section 1 and Section 2. Must be minuted as two separate items and not under the same item number
- Notice of Conclusion of Audit
- Publishing of the document in accordance with the Transparency Code

b) The Accounts for 2016/2017

i) Bank balance £5,752.56 as at 31 August 2016.

ii) Receipts –

- £168.00 – Worcestershire County Council Lengthsman
- £72.00 – Worcestershire County Council Lengthsman
- £144.00 – Worcestershire County Council Lengthsman

iii) Payments agreed: –

£6.00 – Wychavon Parish Games (447)

BVH – hire of hall for Parish Council meetings and VDS meetings (public/16 May 2016 and group leaders/27 June dates previously agreed) as below:-

£104.00 - Parish Council meetings 2016/2017 (440)

£45.00 - VDS meetings (441)

£72.00 - Lengthsman (April))

£96.00 - Lengthsman (May)) - £168.00 (442)

£128.60 - HMRC (April, May, June) (439)

£514.90 - Clerks pay (April, May, June) (443)

£55.11 - Clerks expenditure (April, May June – agreed July meeting) (itemised breakdown/till receipts provided to Chairman and available to all members) (445)

- Chairman signed the expenditure form

£72.00 - Lengthsman (June) (446)

c) Future payments for consideration

£18.00 – BVH for VDS on Monday 5 September 2016 for Group Leaders

£84.00 - BVH – Open Day for VDS (7 hours - 8am to 3pm + kitchen facility)

£9.00 - BVH – Open Day set-up (1 hour – 8.30pm to 9.30pm)

£100.00 VDS – presentation / displays / photos / maps – an approximate budget (to have good quality)

- Any payments to BVH will be paid separately to identify each invoice
- The budget was set at £500.00 and to date £256.00 (as per this item and cheque 411) has been spent

£144.00 – Lengthsman (July)

£514.70 - Clerks pay

£128.80 - HMRC

d) Clerks standard expenses (deferred from July meeting)

- Agreement on calculations and decision for 'standard pay'
An explanation by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman on the calculations was given. These are fixed expenses and all members agreed at £34.76 per month
- Agreement therefore on April, May and June quarter and July, August and September quarter, for 'Standard' (fixed) payments

The outstanding amount of £208.56 was resolved for payment.

The Accounts were resolved as per the above discussions, the spreadsheet, summary and provisions.

e) Savings Account

A letter has been drafted, following a lengthy phone call by the Chairman, to be sent to the bank. Chairman and Councillor Yates to countersign.

f) The Pensions Regulator

Automatic enrolment duties; an acknowledgement of the declaration of compliance has been received by email and letter.

g) The parish mower (asset) – the future

The mower was purchased in 2008 and was used on the village green by the wardens. It is no longer used through the Parish Council. The ex-warden had serviced it at a cost more than its value and the mower was no longer of any use to the Parish Council. It was agreed to write it off and remove it from the Asset Register.

h) Autumn Training Programme – CALC. For Councillors and Clerks
No one wished to attend the training sessions.

The Clerk asked if she could attend the CiLCA introduction session in October at a cost of £25.00 which was the same as the Training Programme course. It was resolved that the Clerk could attend and £25.00 was resolved to be paid.

i) Printer/scanner for Clerk – action is needed through the Transparency Fund

The Chairman and Clerk will meet to discuss the progress and update at the next meeting.

The Clerk mentioned ICO (Information Commissioner's Office) who are responsible for the enforcement of the Data Protection Act 1998 and also for Freedom of Information. Did the Parish Council need to be a member of this association?

Councillor Hill would investigate this further and report back to the next meeting.

8. Community Provision

The Community Provision was agreed in principle in January. Discussion had taken place in May on the 'rules' / procedures. Councillor Hill and Councillor Allen were tasked to look at the various concepts of the application process / rules and make a draft.

- Guidance notes agreed in principle following email circulations. The final draft was agreed.
- Application form was drafted and had been circulated. All Councillors in agreement of the draft without amendments.

9. Historic Archiving of the audit and Minutes

To archive the audited Annual Returns for year ended 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2007 at the HIVE. Copies have been scanned and will be available on the parish website.

It was agreed that the audit statements (as above) will be accompanied by the signed Minutes from January 2010 to November 2013 and archived at the same time.

10. Standing Orders and Council's Procedures

Report on progress on the following:

- Complaints - The Complaints Procedure has been drafted and members have made any comments. The final draft was passed to CALC to consider the format for adoption by the Council. All Councillors agreed to adopt the Complaints Procedure.
- Standing Orders. Clerk to action.
- Handling requests made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Data Protection Act 1998. Clerk still to action.

11. Traffic Survey / speeding

Discussions took place on the Traffic Survey results both for Upper End and New Barn Lane. The Chairman asked the Clerk to obtain further analysis from Highways.

Discussion on speeding had taken place during the democratic opening. Further action was agreed to be taken by the Parish Council and Councillor Aston would act as Champion to explore options, with support from the Clerk.

12. Millennium Bench

The Millennium bench on the village green requires maintenance as it is splitting and not level. It was agreed that the bench should be 'restored' and that quotations should be obtained for the works for the repair. There was a suggestion that maybe it would need replacing. Clerk to action.

13. Noticeboard for the parish

A question has been posed about a general noticeboard for advertising. A parish board. Could the kiosk be used? The kiosk was not being used by the Flower and Produce Show as it had been previously although they are still welcome to use it. It was noted that there had been a previous minuted agreement (May 2008) and that permission had been obtained from BVH to site a Parish Council board on the northern end of the hall but this had not been taken up. Parish Council notices are still displayed on the village hall noticeboard.

Councillor New volunteered to take charge of the kiosk and action a project to make the phone box into an advertising / noticeboard (previously suggested in May 2009) and generally tidy it up again. *See Appendix 3*

14. New Homes Bonus - Smartwater

Information had been received regarding Smartwater and consideration given under the New Homes Bonus scheme by the District Council. Some villages have used New Homes Bonus for this purpose however this is no longer being offered. Smartwater is now approximately £60.00 per set. Councillor Hill has investigated and it was agreed that this was no longer viable for every household without the New Homes Bonus.

15. Councillors' reports and items for next agenda

- Village Design Statement - Open Day on a Saturday from 10am to 2pm in the form of an exhibition.

Councillor Yates was thanked for his tremendous hard work on the VDS

- Transparency Fund – Chairman and Clerk as Item 7
- 'Footpath' between Birlingham and Pershore (Marina side)

16. **Closure** - with nothing further to discuss the meeting closed at 8.35pm.
The next Parish Council Meeting is on Wednesday 16 November 2016 at 7.00pm.

Signed: **Councillor Steve Morris, Chairman**

Date:

Appendix 1

An Upper End resident made a statement concerning speeding vehicles and the numbers of vehicles exceeding the 30mph limit. The Parish Council were asked if there was anything they could do. Could a 'slow down' sign be erected or could it be considered to reduce the 30mph to 20mph? There are concealed entrances, the farm tractors and their trailers appear to be speeding. What is allowed?

Can Highways at Worcestershire County Council be approached again? They have already assessed the road using the measuring strips. Ask if the strips can be used again. Could the residents do a 'speed check'? There appear to be two options for enforcement of the speed limit; using the police with their radar or a self-help with villagers taking part.

The Clerk to approach County Councillor Hardman to investigate regarding the volume of vehicles and their speed. Make the Councillor aware of action for the speed restrictions, reducing speed limits and repainting the red strips as was previously promised.

The HGV movements seem to have increased and are even coming into the village in the early hours of the morning. The agricultural production is part of 'normal' village life but it's important to be vigilant of any other use and activities.

Councillor Aston was happy to carry out further enquiries. The Clerk would instruct the Lengthsman to clear and make all the signage in the village visible.

Appendix 2

Clerk's Report

County Councillor update (post 20 July meeting)

- Signage

Councillor Adrian Hardman emailed the clerk and said, "Could you make a formal request for the sign to Kieran".

Clerk sent an email 21/7 to Kieran Hemstock at Highways requesting an 'advisory lorry' sign at the entrance to Birlingham village (opposite the telephone exchange on the Eckington Road) which is on New Barn Road. Similar sign to the one at the war memorial.

Response from Kieran (27/7) quotes, "I'll get another sign ordered, should be up in about 6 weeks".

Update: sign has been attached to the 'give way' sign w/c 22 August.

- Eckington Bridge question (to be discussed) at full County Council.

[Tree Preservation Orders in Birlingham](#)

For information: -

Tree Preservation Order Birlingham No 001 2007 - Village Green (dated 3 May 2007) Plane tree

Tree Preservation Order Birlingham No 001 2009 - Glebe House, New Barn Road (dated 24 November 2009) Cedar

Tree Preservation Order Birlingham No 001 2016 - land to the north of New Barn Road (dated 24 June 2016) All trees of whatever species

[Power Cut – new phone number 105](#)

An email was received from Michael Clarke, Corporate Communications Team (Midlands)

Western Power Distribution, as follows:

"On 6th September a new national phone number "105" will be launched by electricity network operators for customers to call should they need to report or get information about a power cut in their area. As one of our key stakeholders who work with members of the public who may be affected by power cuts, we wanted to share this information with you. This a nationwide service that may well be of benefit to them.

Key points to note about this service are:

- *Dialling 105 will put customers through to their local electricity network operator – the company that manages the cables, power lines and substations that deliver electricity into homes and businesses in their area.*
- *105 is just one of the ways that customers can contact their electricity network operator. Customers can also contact them by phone or via their website, and most network operators are on social media too.*
- *105 is a free service for people in England, Scotland and Wales.*
- *Customers can call 105 no matter who they choose to buy electricity from.*
- *Customers can also call 105 if they spot damage to electricity power lines and substations that could put anyone in danger. If there's a serious immediate risk, they should call the emergency services too.*

A consumer awareness campaign will run from September through to next spring and will include PR, media advertising, social media and coordinated messaging through partner channels.

Hopefully you can help us to raise awareness of this important new national 105 service through your channels, once the service is launched.

We will also want to continue to work with partners to raise awareness of 105 in the longer-term.

[Community Infrastructure Levy \(CIL\) Regulation 19 Stage Submission for Examination \(2016\) and consultation on the statement of modifications to the CIL Draft Charging Schedule Regulation 19\(4\)](#)

Birlingham Parish Council September 2016

An email was received from the Acting SWDP Project Manager regarding the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Regulation 19 Stage Submission for Examination (2016) and consultation on the statement of modifications to the CIL Draft Charging Schedule Regulation 19(4).

This consultation period runs for four weeks from 9:00am on Monday 25 July to 5:00pm on Monday 22 August 2016. Please note this is not a further opportunity to make comments on the DCS but only on the changes proposed in the statement of modifications.

[Pensions Regulator – declaration of compliance for Birlingham Parish Council](#)

A 'declaration of compliance' was submitted. An email was received from the Pensions Regulator acknowledging the submission and states as follows:-

This email confirms you have completed a declaration for Birlingham Parish Council with The Pensions Regulator under the Pensions Act 2008.

We will also send a copy of this information by post to the senior contact you provided in the declaration.

[Wychavon Building Design Awards 2016](#)

An email was received from Wychavon District Council as follows:

Every two years Wychavon District Council run the Building Design Awards to recognise building projects that show real design quality, craftsmanship and sustainable building practices. The nominations for the 2016 Building Design Awards are now open!

The Awards are broken down into five categories:

- Heritage Award for the conversion of a historic building or new work within a historic context*
- Home Award (new build)*
- Home Award (extensions and conversions)*
- Sustainability Award for projects demonstrating high standards of energy conservation or sustainable construction*
- Community Architecture Award for projects that serve the local community e.g. village halls and schools.*

To be eligible, projects need to have been completed between July 2014 and July 2016 and be within Wychavon district. The judging panel will be made up of Wychavon District Councillors, Design Practitioners and members of the Civic Societies.

If you wish to nominate a project, please use the attached leaflet and return either by email to policy.plans@wychavon.gov.uk or by post to Fred Davies (Policy Manager), Housing and Planning Services, Wychavon District Council, Civic Centre, Queen Elizabeth Drive, Pershore, WR10 1PT. The closing date for nominations is Friday 9 September 2016.

[Town / Parish Briefing – 28 July 2016](#)

A copy of the slides from the Town / Parish Briefing were sent by Wychavon District Council for information

[Smart Water](#)

From Simon Thompson, Business and Rural Crime Co-ordinator, as follows:

This is just a short email to confirm that Wychavon District Council are still very keen to support local parishes to create crime –free villages by the use of property marking schemes. This has already successfully being completed in Cropthorne with sufficient property marking kits being purchased to enable every household to be issued one free of charge with the council funding signage throughout the village. We will soon be commencing an identical scheme in Abbots Morton however, in this case, the marking kits will be funded solely by the parish as oppose to New Homes Bonus which was the case in Cropthorne.

Birlingham Parish Council September 2016

As you will no doubt be aware the Localism Panel has stipulated that any future schemes can only use New Homes Bonus to fund 50% of the cost, the remainder being met from elsewhere. The council will continue to fund signage as previously agreed.

This is still a great opportunity to purchase SmartWater at a cost of £8.90 per household kit with no yearly license fee. SmartWater is proven to reduce crime by 65-85% and in some villages NO substantiated burglaries have been committed since its introduction.

Should any parish councils who have not already expressed an interest wish to be considered please contact me.

[Drainage – The Avenue \(between Cart House and Field Cottage\)](#)

May 2016 – Carl Brassington reported the flooding issue due to a blocked drain (ref: 169526)

July 2016 – Clerk reported again (ref: 201918)

24/08/2016 reply - Thank you for your enquiry. This site was inspected on the morning of 20/08/2016. Our inspector on site concluded that there were no obvious drainage issues at the given location and that the drains were clear upon inspection.

[Neighbourhood Watch](#)

On 31 August 2016, the two alert services (VC Relay and DOT Mailer) will be switched off permanently and the new Community Messaging Service (CMS) will be the sole provider of vital messages from local police teams.

Jayne Mackenzie – has confirmed that she has registered with the new CMS and so will continue to send messages out to the Lower End residents.

[382 Bus service](#)

The 382 bus service will change from 5 September 2016. A timetable has been put on the noticeboard and several villagers who regularly use the bus have received copies. James Revill has been informed.

[Highway Issues](#)

POTHOLE on Broadway Road reported by Lengthsman (Reference number is 212360)

PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY Footpath 506 below The Old Rectory reported by Clerk (Reference Number 216405) Deterrent Notices/Disputed Route issue

The Footpath Officer is aware of the problem.

Reply from Countryside (Environmental Services) 30 August

Thank you for your recent communication regarding problems you have encountered on the above public right of way. The details have been recorded as PR-17-24014 Details have been passed to the Inspection Officer for site inspection.

[Casual Vacancy – notice of Co-option](#)

Wychavon District Council's Democratic Services and Support Services section have been noticed that Steve Conder has resigned and Paula Aston is in post.

[Traffic Survey – comments](#)

A response was received from a resident, quotes "Results are interesting and it seems to me that something needs to be done about speeding motorists particularly at Upper End. Many of us walk this lane and there are no footpaths. Some motorists do at least slow down to pass pedestrians; others do not and some of them live in Birlingham. Disregarding delivery drivers, it would be my guess that many of the speeding motorists either live or work in Birlingham. However, I do wonder why surveys concentrate only on traffic in New Barn Lane and Upper End. It suggests that traffic outside of the check points is not deemed to enter Birlingham when in fact those of us who **do** live in Birlingham on Birlingham Parish Council September 2016

Eckington Road have to suffer speeding motorists hurling litter from their vehicles on a daily basis. In my seven years living here I have had two cars through my hedge. Litter is discarded regularly. On Wednesday evenings and sunny weekends motor cycle traffic can be quite heavy and some of them race the road at quite outrageous speeds. Speeding traffic in Upper End is not acceptable but the volume of traffic and degree of speeding is far worse on Eckington Road. I urge the Parish Council to lobby the County Council to monitor traffic on Eckington Road so that data can be properly assessed". Ed Thompson, Dairy Cottage

Village Design Statement

– Monday 5 September

The Group Leaders met on 5 September to:

- Review progress from each working group
- Arrangements for Village Open Day 15th October

– Friday 14 October

- Booking made through Hallmaster for BVH setup from 8.30pm until 9.30pm - Invoice awaited.

– Saturday 15 October – Open Day

- Booking made through Hallmaster for BVH from 8am to 3pm. Invoice awaited.

Rural Services Network – Rural Opportunities Bulletin

A monthly bulletin facilitated by the Parish Councils membership of the Rural Services Network was circulated to all Councillors informing of a selection of current funding, consultation and other opportunities.

The Bystander – dates for the diary

The Secretary requested the dates until May 2017 for publication in The Bystander for the Autumn issue in November.

Worcestershire Pollinator Conference

Information was circulated from CALC regarding a conference to be held considering how to make the natural environment in the area more supportive of pollinating insect populations.

A poster was posted on the noticeboard and the website.

Birlingham News

Birlingham News 112 – 27 July

The Village Design Statement is well under way and there are two opportunities in the next few weeks for you to get involved, including a chance to win cava and chocolates.

In this issue:

1. Benefice Service, Sunday 31st July
2. Cuppa & Chat, Wednesday 3rd August
3. St James's Church Services – August
4. Village Design Statement – Landscape Views: Win a Bottle of Cava!
5. Village Design Statement – Residents' Views
6. Parish Council (20th July)
7. Planning Applications

4. Village Design Statement – Landscape Views: Win a Bottle of Cava!

Dan Stratford writes:

Thank you to all the residents who have sent in photos of the village for the VDS. We've had a great early response but we still need more. Because of this, I will be running a competition for residents of the village. Whoever sends me the most photos by 28th August of aspects of the parish that are important to them will win a grand prize.

The person under 18 who sends me the most photos of the parish will win £5 and a box of chocolates. Second place will be a box of chocolates. For the participants that I can legally ply with alcohol, the winner will receive two bottles of cava. Second place will receive one bottle.

Please send all entries to Dan Stratford and reference the VDS in the email subject field. Previous submissions of photos will be counted towards the competition. Thank you in advance for your participation!

5. Village Design Statement – Residents' Views

Mary-Anne Dyer writes:

The Residents' Views working group are setting out with a questionnaire about what you think is important in the village and what changes you would like to see. We would welcome anyone who was keen to answer contacting us. The questionnaire should take 15 to 20 minutes only and we will travel for feedback!

6. Parish Council (20th July)

At its meeting on 20th July, Birlingham Parish Council discussed a number of issues, including the following:

- Paula Aston was co-opted onto the Council to fill the casual vacancy. Paula is a former parish councillor and lives in Upper End.
- A summary of the results of the traffic surveys in New Barn Lane and Upper End will be available shortly and these will be discussed at the next meeting.
- A Tree Preservation Order has been put in place in Upper End – full details will be included in the next Birlingham News.

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting will be available within the next two weeks.

7. Planning Applications

The following planning applications have been determined by Wychavon District Council:

- **Rifle Range, Salters Lane**, Besford: New shot gun shelter on existing shooting range also air rifle range with hard standing (*Amended to: Erection of rifle range building with hardstanding*) (Case No. 15/03130). **Approved**. Full details and conditions can be viewed on the Wychavon DC website

(Not in Birlingham Parish but the Parish Council was asked to comment as it is adjacent to the boundary.)

- **Paddock Barn**, Broadway Road: Non-material amendment to planning approval W/13/01226/CU for minor revision to layout and fenestration (Case No. 16/01524). **Refused**.

Birlingham News 113 – 10 August

It's nearly time for the Flower & Produce Show and when you have finished setting out your entries the Show Committee would appreciate a little bit of your time to help out. A few days later, a new Photography Club is being launched.

In this issue:

1. Flower & Produce Show, Saturday 3rd September
2. Birlingham Photography Club – First Meeting, Tuesday 6th September
3. Vintage & Classic Car Rally (22nd July)
4. Benefice Service (31st July)
5. Tree Preservation Order, Upper End
6. Public Service Announcements
7. Planning Applications

5. Tree Preservation Order, Upper End

Wychavon District Council has imposed a blanket tree preservation order (TPO) on all land between Upper End and New Barn Lane, from Church Lane to Eckington Road. The justification for this extensive TPO is as follows:

- The Conservation Area for Birlingham has not been reviewed in recent years – if it were to be reconsidered it may well include the area which is now the subject of the TPO and would offer the trees a measure of protection. In the mean-time the TPO will protect the trees from either felling or inappropriate pruning. The TPO does not prevent any works to trees but simply means that the District Council will have some say in what works are carried out.
- Paragraph 4 of the TPO refers to where applications are approved to remove protected trees and conditions to replace the trees are imposed. If this is the case, then Schedule 1 in the TPO document would need to be updated to reflect the agreed replacement planting and it would need to be made clear that this was as a result of a condition.

The TPO (including a map of the area covered) can be viewed at www.birlingham.org/docs/tpo_2016_1.pdf.

6. Public Service Announcements

Over the past few weeks we have received the following public information, which may be of interest to residents:

- On 6th September a new free national phone number, 105, will be launched by electricity network operators for customers to call should they need to report or get information about a power cut in their area. Full details of the new service are at www.birlingham.org/docs/power_cuts_105.pdf.
- Police and Crime Commissioner John Campion has unveiled his Safer West Mercia Plan for consultation with communities and partners across West Mercia. The plan sets out the Commissioner's specific aims for the next four years and how he will create a safer West Mercia, working in partnership with the police, communities and other agencies. The draft plan can be viewed at www.birlingham.org/docs/safer_west_mercia_2016.pdf. The consultation is open until Friday 16th September 2016.
- The Woodland Trust are offering free Community Tree Packs to community groups who wish to plant trees on publicly accessible land. These are similar to the pack that was obtained when the Jubilee Wood was planted in 2012.
- Microchipping of dogs has been compulsory since 6th April 2016. More information on microchipping can be seen at www.birlingham.org/docs/microchipping

7. Planning Applications

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

- **Burnside**, Whitehall Lane: Removal of existing utility building to the rear and the conservatory. Extension of existing house to provide rear facing lounge, dining room and kitchen areas. Removal of existing redundant chimney stacks (Case No. 16/01487). **Approved.**

Birlingham News 114 – 31 August

There's a busy week ahead, with something happening nearly every day from Saturday onwards.

In this issue:

1. St James's Church Services – September
2. Flower & Produce Show, Saturday 3rd September
3. Birlingham Photography Club – First Meeting, Tuesday 6th September
4. Cuppa & Chat, Wednesday 7th September
5. Church Cleaning Morning, Friday 9th September
6. Race Night, Saturday 24th September
7. Traffic Survey
8. Village Design Statement – Landscape Views
9. Thank You from Marion
10. Planning Applications

7. Traffic Survey

Earlier this year, in May, the County Council carried out a traffic survey at two points in the village: New Barn Lane and Upper End. For a week in each location the size and speed of all vehicles was recorded.

The Parish Council's analysis of the data provided by the County Council can be viewed at www.birlingham.org/pc_info/traffic_survey_2016.pdf. Although data is also available from two previous surveys, in 2006 and 2010, it should be noted that these surveys were carried out during the winter months, making comparisons difficult.

The issues of heavy vehicles and speeding will be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting on Wednesday 21st September. If you have any comments or concerns to put to the Parish Council, please email news@birlingham.org and we will pass them on.

8. Village Design Statement – Landscape Views

Dan Stratford writes:

Thank you to everyone who has sent in photos of favourite village landscape views for the VDS photo competition. Although we've had a really good response, and the competition is now closed, we still want to hear from as many people as possible about aspects of the parish that are important to them. This will form an essential part of the Village Design Statement. The winners of the competition will be announced in the next Birlingham News.

10. Planning Applications

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

- **Emli**, Whitehall Lane: Erection of single storey side extension, conversion of garage and insert bay window to form third bedroom and insertion of 2 no. sun pipes to eastern roof slope of bungalow. (Case No. 16/01600). Approved. Full details and conditions can be viewed on the Wychavon DC website

Birlingham News 113 – 15 September

The Open Day for the Village Design Statement will be held on Saturday 15th October: your chance to have your say about the future of Birlingham, so book the date now.

In this issue:

1. Parish Council Meeting, Wednesday 21st September
2. Race Night, Saturday 24th September

3. Harvest Festival, Sunday 2nd October
4. Village Design Statement, Saturday 15th October
5. Birlingham Bystander
6. Changes to 382 Bus Service
7. Birlingham Book Shop, St James's Church
8. Power Cuts 105 Helpline
9. Wychavon Inactivity Survey

[1. Parish Council Meeting, Wednesday 21st September](#)

The next meeting of Birlingham Parish Council takes place on Wednesday 21st September at the new, earlier time of 7.00pm in Birlingham Village Hall. Among other items on the agenda, there will be a discussion about the recent traffic survey. During the meeting there is an opportunity to express your views on this and other local issues, so please come along.

[4. Village Design Statement, Saturday 15th October](#)

There will be an Open Day for the Village Design Statement on Saturday 15th October in Birlingham Village Hall from 10.00am until 2.00pm.

The purpose of a Village Design Statement is to capture the current nature and spirit of the village and propose a model for its future development to Wychavon Planners. The draft information will be available for you to comment on. Please keep 15 minutes free to drop by and have your say.

Contact any of the Residents' Views committee

[6. Changes to 382 Bus Service](#)

Since 5th September, the 382 bus service (formerly operated by Astons in the daytime and First in the evening) has been run solely by First. The original sixteen daily services running from Monday to Saturday have been replaced by four services a day running from Monday to Friday. However, the one bit of good news is that these buses now come through Birlingham, stopping at the church. The new bus times are:

- Towards Worcester: 07:13, 09:48, 15:48 and 17:48
- Towards Pershore: 08:13 (08:48 in school holidays), 14:49, 17:06 and 18:49

Only some of these services go directly to or from Eckington.

You can check the times of the next three services from Birlingham by texting a code to 84268, which may be useful if a bus appears to be delayed. For services towards Worcester the code is wocdjpat; for services towards Pershore, send code wocdj paw. Texts cost 25p plus standard message-sending charge.

The full timetable and set of SMS codes are available

[8. Power Cuts 105 Helpline](#)

The new, free, three-digit 105 telephone number to call in a power cut has now gone live. In future you can use this number to report or get information about power cuts. You can also use this number if you are worried about the safety of over or underground electricity cables or substations.

Full details are at www.birlingham.org/docs/power_cuts_105.pdf.

9. Wychavon Inactivity Survey

One of the Wychavon DC promises for this year is to have a high-profile campaign to promote physical activity. As part of the planning for this campaign they are keen to hear from people living in Wychavon district who are or consider themselves inactive so that the campaign has more appeal.

Appendix 3

May 2009

It was felt that the phone box could be used as a Parish Council noticeboard and thus saving the cost of a board being made and erected on the Village Hall. Could the box be panelled with a soft wood, which could be replaced? Quotes should be obtained although that was proving difficult for small jobs. A few names were suggested and the Chairman and Clerk would action.