# Birlingham Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 21 May 2024

In Birlingham Village Hall

**Councillors**: Councillors Paula Aston, Katie Parsons, Michael Porter and Ian Yates.

**In attendance**: County Councillor Adrian Hardman, District Councillor Paul Middlebrough, Lengthsman, Carl Brassington, Tree Warden, Rupert Day, Clerk, June Hiden and 6 parishioners.

## 1. Election of Chair for 2024 – 2025

Councillor Ian Yates was willing to continue as Chairman. It was agreed unanimously to elect Councillor Yates as Chairman and he duly accepted the role. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed.

**Welcome** – The Chairman thanked everyone for attending.

## 2. Election of Vice-Chair

It was agreed to appoint a Vice-Chair. Councillor Paula Aston wished to continue as Vice-Chairwoman. Councillors voted and Councillor Aston was elected.

## 3. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were tendered by Steven Byrne due to the change of date of the meeting and David Glover due to work commitments. Apologies given by the Footpath Warden Bruce Hayward who was away on holiday.

## 4. Minutes of the previous meeting of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on 20 March 2024, a draft copy of which has been circulated to all Councillors, was agreed as a true record and duly signed by the Chair.

## 5. Declarations of Interest *Appendix 1*

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 Parish 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.

## 6. To consider the Council's Scheme of Delegation for Officers and Representatives

a) Appointment of Lengthsman;

The Annual Agreement (the Parish Lengthsman Scheme) for the undertaking of minor highway maintenance works between Worcestershire County Council and the Parish Council had been returned to County Hall in April 2024.

Carl Brassington was happy to continue as the Lengthsman on the current contractual basis and a copy of his current business insurance policy is held on record. Carl was re-appointed as Lengthsman.

b) Appointment of Tree Warden; Rupert Day will continue in his role as the Warden.

c) Planning Group – All members are in the Planning Group. They actively take part in the consultation process which has a Head of the Group to lead consultation, collate the Group remarks and finalise a comment before sending to the Proper Officer (Clerk) for submission to the local authority. Councillor Katie Parsons will continue as the Lead.

d) Appointment of Footpath Warden under the authority of Worcestershire County Council. Bruce Hayward has confirmed that he will continue in his role as Warden. The Parish Councillors thanked Bruce for his work and support in the village and to give thanks to Mark Smith who assists Bruce when needed.

e) Appointment of Financial Support Officer. Councillor Paula Aston is willing to give any advice and support in this role.

The Chairman thanked all volunteers for their assistance to the community.

## 7. Confirmation of arrangements for Insurance Cover (Item 13)

The Parish Council is required by law to assess, at least annually, the risk of its various activities (litter pick – public liability) and to update its insurance and asset register. The understanding for the Insurers (Zurich) is that: the precept is under £25,000 (Certificate of Exemption confirms this), the wages are under £20,000, All Risk's total is under £10,000 and there are no major events or public services undertaken during the year on behalf of the Parish Council.

## 8. Review of the Council's subscriptions to other bodies (Item 13)

The Parish Council reviewed and approved its subscription to Worcestershire County Association of Local Councils (CALC), which is a member organisation offering support, training, seminars, advice, and guidance to parish councils. The charges for the current financial year have been received and are to be agreed at agenda item 12.

All Councillors are aware of what CALC does and the service it provides which is an important backup and useful membership to the Parish Council.

The subscription was reviewed and accepted.

## 9. Determining the Time and Place of Ordinary Meetings and the next annual meeting of the Parish Council

A discussion took place on the Parish Council's annual review of the time and place of ordinary bi-monthly meetings.

It was proposed and agreed that the meetings will continue to commence at 7pm on the third Wednesday of the month. Birlingham Village Hall is the usual venue and is being booked in advance. Meetings will be face to face.

It was agreed that the annual meeting of the Parish Council will take place in May 2025. The date and will be agreed later in the year.

## Democratic Opening

This has been fully discussed in the Annual Parish Meeting.

Speeding in Upper End

During the Open Session a presentation was made on behalf of residents in Upper End entitled "Making Upper End safe and with an acceptable quality of life for residents". The concern raised was the increase in traffic since the pandemic with more home deliveries and an increase in HGVs since the expansion of Redstar's refrigerated packing sheds. Amongst other things, this is causing traffic problems at pinch points, erosion of verges and structural damage at Court Cottages. It proposed a reduction in the speed limit to 20mph.

Comments on the presentation were opened to the floor and a wide-ranging discussion took place. Members of the Parish Council gave details of work they had done in 2017/18 working with the police to survey traffic speeds and encourage enforcement but actions were limited as the volume of traffic was considered too low to justify enforcement resources. A summary of the report from 2017 had been forwarded to the residents. Councillor Adrian Hardman explained that 20mph zones are only introduced near schools or accident black spots and they are waiting for guidance from the government on further 20mph zones after the backlash to these in Wales. Traffic calming measures such as speed bumps also require street lighting for safety reasons.

The Parish Council fully supports the concerns raised and agreed to the following:

- To carry out a survey of residents to understand their views on the 20mph proposals put forward by Upper End residents.
- To contact the police to request another survey be carried out to obtain new traffic speed and volume data.
- To discuss with the Highways Authority the cost and installation of signs or white lines on the road indicating that the road narrows.
- To investigate the cost of installing a flashing speed sign that would remind drivers of their speed and the limit.

In addition, at Paul Middlebrough's suggestion:

- The Parish Council could contact the 'Safer Neighbourhood team' and request they make random visits to the village to check speeds.
- Residents can report antisocial driving to the 'Neighbourhood Matters' website.

Damage to verges in Upper End

Rupert Day raised concerns about damage that has been caused to verges mainly by tractors and HGVs since the resurfacing work was completed. He has written to the farm. It has been requested that contact be shared about any future occurrences, both from the farm and other vehicles, so they can be logged.

## 10. Progress Reports

a) Footpath Warden:

i. Footpath 508 (path to Defford from Gravelly Hill) – the boardwalk is still scheduled for repair but bad weather has meant that the work has been delayed.

ii. The County Council runs a proactive strimming programme between May and July. This year for Birlingham the following paths are scheduled to be cleared:

Footpath 507 (west from Eckington Road towards Defford, north of Gravelly Hill).
Footpath 518 (Asham Lane – to the north of Asham Meadow).
Footpath 520 (the path from Nafford Lane up to Nafford Road by Nafford House).

b) Tree Warden:

Rupert Day had given a fuller report during the Annual Parish meeting. The Chairman and members thanked Rupert for his time in talking to landowners to resolve situations.

c) Lengthsman – see ***Appendix 2 summary***

The Lengthsman gave a full report at the Parish Meeting.

Signage

The 30mph repeater sign on Shorthill has faded and needs replacing. (Reference 47899 dated 16 April 2024).

Gullies and Drains

Blocked gully on Grange Road opposite The Grange. (Reference 49487 dated 5 April 2024). Worcestershire County Council replied on 17 April 2024 saying a Highway Inspector has been to the site and as a result a work order has been raised and issued for the Term Maintenance Contractor to carry out works with a 4-week timeframe.

Kerb drains blocked again on Defford Road Upper End. (Reference 50612 dated 18 April 2024).

Flooding – Lower End

Flooding continues at Lower End opposite the Manor House.

April 2024 – following communication from Worcestershire County Council the Clerk asked Lengthsman to meet with Barry Barnes regarding the flooding issue and provide copies of the STW drainage map.

May 2024 – A site meeting was carried out and some covers were lifted in the Moors where the water was fast flowing coming from the top of the village. More tracing is needed to find the source as the pipe runs from behind cottages in Church Street but the ditch is dry. It is believed the water flowing onto the road is actually the overflow from the Moors pond as it lines up with a chamber nearby. This may be caused by the main pipe being blocked and water now exiting via the pond overflow.

A further meeting by Barry Barnes and the owner of the Manor House on 7 May 2024 reports "*I informed of investigations and part conclusion regarding a fence post. He is going to arrange to have it dug up and if the pipe has been broken, he will repair it. I took the opportunity to check under a cover in his lower field which is where the plans show the pond outfalls too. There is a cover which I lifted and noted that it is dry. Same diameter as the pond pipe so stands a chance that could be right*".

Chairman: There have been several onsite meetings recently between local residents, Wychavon District Council and Highways to try and resolve this situation which has existed now for over 9 years. The owner of the Manor House has had trial pits dug by way of investigation work and the owner of the Moors has also carried out drain investigations on their property. The owner of Peacock Barn is escalating action to senior management at Severn Trent Water.

d) District Councillor:

Paul Middlebrough gave a full report at the Annual Parish Meeting.

Councillor Middlebrough can be contacted at The Forge, Church Lane, Norton WR5 2PS

paul.middlebrough@wychavon.net 01905 821 732.

e) County Councillor:

County Councillor Adrian Hardman gave a full report at the Annual Parish Meeting. Some of the points are summarised below:

Worcestershire County Council continues to navigate a challenging financial landscape, despite sustained efforts to manage costs whilst facing demands.

In February 2024, the government acknowledged the County's financial position, awarding an additional £5 million in grants for social care. Additionally, a 2.99% increase in council tax, coupled with a 2% uplift in the adult social care levy, has been approved through Full Council. These measures, alongside targeted investments in children's and adult social care, enable the council to uphold its capital commitments across critical areas such as the economy, environment, highways, and education.

The Councillors mentioned flooding and 10 named storms over the winter which led to considerable disruption with the closure of Eckington bridge on numerous occasions and the rebuilding of the parapets on both sides. There will be another road closure for a day, on the Birlingham Road. Councillor Hardman gave apologies for this.

The Councillor was pleased that the resurfacing work in the village had been done and although this did not exactly run to plan there is an improvement. There is still some drainage work to finish off.

There was an update on the Pershore reorganisation of education where it is understood that this probably will be delayed by at least a year due to funding issues.

Councillor Hardman was thanked for his support and continuing assistance with village matters.

f) Clerk - See ***Appendix 2***

## 11. Planning

a) Planning applications pending: -

i. W/23/0241/FUL – **Birlingham Nurseries**, Upper End, Birlingham, Pershore, WR10 3AA (28 November 2023)

Construction of one secure storage unit and one covered storage unit ancillary to the use of the nursery

Applicant – Mr Smith

Parish Council comments:

> *"Birlingham Parish Council would not like to see a retrospective planning application becoming the normal, however, in this instance we see no objection to the new secure storage shelter. With regard to the "open fronted" building also proposed, it refers to this building replacing one that was storm damaged on the site. We would rely on the appointed planning officer to confirm this is the case and identify the previous storm damaged building and ensure this has been removed from the site as implied."*

PENDING

18 May 2024 - Clerk has chased the planning officer for an update.
20 May 2024 – reply. Planning officer has chased the agent without response. If there is no reply by 10 June 2024 the application will be refused due to the lack of information and the applicant will be required to remove the structures from the site.

b) Applications granted:-

i. W/23/PIP - **Broadgrove** Nursery Farm Shop, Eckington Road WR10 3DA (30 November 2023)

Permission in Principle for the construction of up to 4no. dwellings

Applicant - Mr T Mence

Parish Council comments:

*"Birlingham Parish Council support in principle the use of this site for 2 or 3 houses or indeed preferably bungalows, although 4 dwellings may be too many, considering the continued concerns about the site's access/egress proximity to the bend. We trust at the future detailed stage of application the allocated planning officer will ensure compliance in terms of design and materials with the Birlingham Village Plan."*

The members felt that the comments sent to Wychavon District Council by the Parish Council and the residents have been ignored. If an appeal is received the Parish Council will support the applicant, particularly on the grounds of traffic.

DECISION – REFUSED 4 APRIL 2024

APPEAL: Reference:- APP/H1840/W/24/3344335

Appeal Start Date 27 June 2024

Appellant(s) Name Mr T Mence

Proposal: Permission in Principle for the construction of up to 4no. dwellings Site at: Broadgrove Nursery Farm Shop Eckington Road Birlingham Pershore WR10 3DA

*We write to advise you that a planning appeal has been lodged with The Planning Inspectorate against the Council's decision for the proposed development described above. All correspondence and relevant documentation can be viewed on the Wychavon District Council website at www.wychavon.gov.uk under planning reference W/23/02328/PIP. If you are unable to access our website, please see overleaf for other methods to contact us. The appeal will be determined on the basis of* ***written representations****. The procedure to be followed is set out in Part 2 of The Town and Country Planning (Appeals) (Written Representations Procedure)(England) Regulations 2009, as amended. Copies of any representations made by you in response to the original planning application will be sent to The Planning Inspectorate and will be considered by the appointed Inspector when determining the appeal. If you wish to make further comments, or modify/withdraw your previous representation, you can do so at https://acp.planninginspectorate.gov.uk* ***by 1 August 2024****.*

ii. Correspondence

A letter has been received from owners of Peacock Barn advising of a pre-application for a change of use of land to the rear of the property from agricultural to domestic garden. Members will wait for the submission of the planning application to comment.

c) Enforcement: - none.

d) Conflict of Interest Policy

The Policy has been circulated and the policies under the Code of Conduct were difficult to simplify further. There had been no further comments to add to the draft.

Councillors agreed to approve the policy.

## 12. Financial Matters

a) The Accounts for 2023/2024

i) Bank balances as per year end spreadsheet - current is £8,449.91 at 31 March 2024 and Business saving balance is £8,395.04 as at 31 March 2023.

ii) Receipts

i. £122.50 - Worcestershire County Council (15 March 2024 on statement) Lengthsman January 2024
ii. £148.75 – Worcestershire County Council (19 March 2024 on statement) Lengthsman February 2024

The Accounts for 2023/2024 for resolution (as per the audited financial year end), including the provision, as below.

b) The Accounts for 2024/2025

Acceptance of the accounting receipts and payments so far in the current financial year

i) Bank balance – as per the spreadsheet - current is £13,391.92 as at 29 April 2024 and Business saving balance is £88,403.71 as at 9 April 2024.

ii) Receipts

i. £1,543.91 – Parish element – CIL

Discussion at Item 17. It was agreed there was a monitoring requirement needed for CIL.

ii. £122.50 – Worcestershire County Council – Lengthsman April 2024
iii. £3,458.00 – Wychavon District Council (precept £3,368 and grant £90)

iii) Payments agreed

i. £40.00 – Information Commissioner Office Annual renewal charge (730)
ii. £87.50 – Lengthsman January 2024 (Correction – this should have been £122.50)
iii. £140.00 – Lengthsman February 2024 (Correction – this should have been £148.75)
iv. £162.40 – PAYE January, February, March (735)
v. £20.00 – Birlingham Village Hall – March 2024 meeting (736)
vi. £650.00 – Clerk's Pay – October, November, December (737)
vii. £104.28 - Clerk's Expenses – October, November, December
viii. £650.00 – Clerk's Pay – January, February, March (738)
ix. £104.28 - Clerk's Expenses – January, February, March
x. £250.00 – Ian Morphett annual charge for maintenance of the Millennium Bench as per March 2023 agreement.

Clerk has received a message from Ian and he is coming to do the works shortly.

c. Future payments for consideration

i. £35.00 Correction to Lengthsman payment for January 2024 and £8.75 correction to Lengthsman payment for February 2024 total £43.75 (740)

ii. £122.50 – Lengthsman March 2024 (741)
iii. £227.50 – Lengthsman April 2024 (742)
iv. £351.01 – Zurich insurance renewal date 1 June 2024 (743)
v. £262.83 – Worcestershire CALC (739)
vi. £20.00 – Birlingham Village Hall – May meetings (744)
vii. £60.00 – Internal Audit (746)

d. Mandate Variation

Addition of Councillor Katie Parsons as bank signatory. Letter was receipted by Lloyds Bank in September 2023 but was not actioned. The Clerk has contacted the bank and has received an acknowledge on 17 May 2024 to say this is confirmed.

e. Savings account – update. Any transfers

Clerk to action the transfer agreed from current account to the savings account following the financial year end. This will be a cheque for £5,000.00.

The Accounts for 2023/2024 for resolution (as per the spreadsheet at financial year end), including the provisions.

f. Internal Audit – completed (Annual Internal Audit Report – page 4 - 2023/24 of the Annual Return).

Internal Auditor's findings:

i. BACS receipt copy required for 3 October 2023 for the £210 Lengthsman.
ii. Cheque 703 receipt required for £200 from the Jubilee Committee.

Sadie Yeoman's payment agreed above and she has been thanked for her assistance.

g. Certificate of Exemption (page 3) – the date for the external audit from PKF Littlejohn has been given as no later than 30 June 2024.

Copies of the Annual Return (plus variances greater than 15% this financial year and bank reconciliation) sent to all Councillors.

h. Approval of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) Part 2:

Section 1: The Annual Governance Statement (page 5) 2023-2024

i. Approval of the Annual Return:

Section 2: The Accounting Statements (page 6)

All Councillors in agreement with the Annual Return for the external auditor.

Clerk to return the agreed and completed 2023/24 Annual Return Certificate of Exemption Notice.

Clerk has been asked to adjust the interest on the bank reconciliation.

Clerk to display the completed Certificate of Exemption, Annual Return (pages 4, 5 and 6), variances, bank reconciliation and the Notice of the Exercise of Public Rights after this meeting both on the noticeboard and to be published on the village website.

## 13. Full Fibre Broadband (Fibre to the Premise FTTP)

Since the last update in March when Airband's work in the village had stopped, there has been good progress. There has been new investment and the next phase is due to start. Birlingham has been allocated a new project manager and the Parish Council has been working with him to encourage the build in both Upper and Lower End to be completed. There was a meeting in Upper End on Monday 20 May 2024 between Airband, Woodfield farm and landowner to agree the installation of a trench and duct in the fields on the right-hand side, as you enter the village, from the A4104 to Hills Cottage. The works are due to start on 22 May 2024. This will bring the fibre cable into Upper End. The farm kindly agreed for the work to go ahead despite the field being cropped and the landowner signed the wayleave. A second meeting was held in Lower End to find ways to minimise road closures while the work to complete connections on Broadway, Grange Road and Berwick Lane goes ahead.

The Chairman has thanked Rob Stepniewski at Worcestershire County Council for his help. Members thanked the Chairman for pursuing the issues over the last few months both with Worcestershire County Council and Airband representatives.

## 14. Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

Community Infrastructure Levy is paid to the parish when there has been a development in their area which attracts CIL. The Parish has received a Levy from Wychavon District Council for £1,543.91. The Clerk enquired about the payment and it is due to the increase in size of Birlingham House. Discussion to continue at Item 17.

## 15. Highways

The Clerk has sent an apology to the owner of the Moors as it was advised someone has entered the garden without their knowledge. The owner has sent a further report from Cotswold Drainage.

Issues regarding flooding, resurfacing and speed limits have been discussed at the Annual Parish meeting and are reported in the Lengthsman and Clerk's reports.

## 16. Bystander

Councillor Aston will do an article for the Bystander regarding the current vacancy.

## 17. Communities Project

In March the Parish Council reported on a meeting between community groups and the Communities Officer at Wychavon District Council to discuss possible grant funding for projects in the village.

Grant funding has not been sourced however the Community Infrastructure Levy payment of £1543.91 has been paid to the parish as a Neighbourhood Fund. This money can be spent on the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure, or on the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan. For examples:

Physical infrastructure: e.g. highways, transport links, cycleways, energy supply, water, flood alleviation, waste management
Social infrastructure: e.g. education, health, social care, emergency services, art and culture, sports halls, community halls
Green infrastructure: e.g. parks, woodlands, play areas, public open space.

The Parish Council intends to compile a list of potential community infrastructure projects on which any Neighbourhood Fund could be spent, or for which applications for grant funding could be made. Village community groups will be invited to put forward projects and will be contacted shortly.

Councillor Katie Parson will do a proforma for groups. There is a 5-year spending limit.

An article will be published in Birlingham News.

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

Portrait of the King - The Parish Clerk has received a portrait of his Majesty King Charles III (free of charge with government backing). The suggestion is that this is hung on the wall in the village hall and will be discussed with the hall committee.

## 19. Closure and date of next ordinary meeting

With nothing further to discuss the meeting closed at 9.45pm and the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance.

The next Parish Council Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 17 July 2024 at 7.30pm.

The meeting will be held in Birlingham Village Hall. Clerk has booked hall.

**Signed: ..... Councillor Ian Yates, Chairman**

**Date: ……..……..……**

## Appendix 1 – Declaration of Interest

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

## Appendix 2 – Clerk's Report

### i. Highways / Public Rights of Way

- **Road Closures in Upper End**

  Maintenance

  Resurfacing

  White lining

- **Cleaning**

  The manure left on Broadway Road by contractors when spreading on the fields nearby was cleared by Redstar.

- **Footway**, Eckington Road

  19 April 2024 Reference 48710

  Resident update on the footway on Eckington Road and the reply from WCC. "*Thank you for your enquiry regarding the condition of the footway on Eckington Road from Dairy Cottage to the junction of New Barn Road. We have now included the siding out of this footway in our current programme of works. Unfortunately, we are not always able to make use of Temporary Road Closure due to commitment to deliver works elsewhere*.".

- **Footpath** from Gravelly Hill to Defford - Boardwalk over the brook

  WCC have updated 3 May – "*As soon as we get a long enough period of dry weather for the ground to allow vehicle access my contractor is lined up to carry out the works. The constant rain we've been having has really scuppered progress on this one*!"

## ii. Portrait of the King

The portrait of his Majesty King Charles III Portrait (free of charge with government backing) has been received.

## Circulations to Councillors

13 May 2024

**Strengthening Communities**

*Town and Parish Council conference **12 June -**, **Wyre Forest District Council***
*The **drop in marketplace** with representatives from;*

- *County Council services – health walks, community services directory and grant funding database, libraries, digital switchover*
- *Herefordshire and Worcestershire Fire and Rescue Service*
- *West Mercia Police*
- *Citizens Advice*
- *Active Herefordshire and Worcestershire*
- *Others to be confirmed*

*The **main conference agenda** includes:*

- *West Mercia Police providing an overview of local policing*
- *Herefordshire and Worcestershire Fire and Rescue Service providing an overview of fire prevention and wellbeing activity across the county*
- *Digital switch over – switching off 2G and 3G connections and implications for residents (Worcestershire County Council digital services)*
- *Improving Health and Wellbeing through town and parish councils project launch – (Worcestershire CALC)*
- *Town and parishes spotlight – town and parish councils' websites (Worcestershire CALC)*
- *Highways overview and Q and A (Worcestershire County Council Highways)*

8 April 2024

**Monthly bulletin featuring RSN Rural Funding Digest and Government Consultations.**

Funding Digest includes many sources of grant funding. The Government Consultation section may include a draft response to relevant rural consultations and also highlights other consultations relevant to rural areas which you may be interested in responding to.

## ..... Birlingham News .....

### Extracts of interest

Birlingham **News 325 – 13 March 2024**

**Birlingham News Online**

The latest edition of Birlingham News is now online at www.birlingham.org/village/bno.

The online edition contains:

- Details of tree works in the Avenue near Field Cottage, Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th of March
- Parish Council meeting, Wednesday 20th March
- Birlingham IW, Thursday 21st March
- Report of Snowdrop Teas
- Information requested for visiting cat
- Notice of Closure for Upper End, part of the Avenue and Church Lane, for one day during Sunday 17th – Sunday 24th March
- Notice of Eckington Bridge Closure, Saturday 23rd March – Sunday 7th April
- Bystander Archive (Spring 2010)
- Planning Applications – Brockham approval
- Recent photographs of the village and dates for your diary between now and the end of April

Birlingham **News 326 – 27 March 2024**

The online edition contains:

- Cuppa & Chat, Wednesday 3rd April
- St James' Church News (Easter Sunday, 31st March)
- Easter Closure at the Swan, 3rd-7th April
- Annual Parochial Church Meeting, Wednesday 17th April
- Friends of St James' Church AGM, Monday 22nd April
- Airband Problems
- Parish Council Report from 20th March
- Pilates at Birlingham Village Hall
- Planning Applications – The Grange (approved)
- Recent photographs of the village and dates for your diary between now and mid-May

Birlingham **News 327 – 10 April 2024**

The online edition contains:

- St James' Church News: Tree Service, Sunday 14th April
- Annual Parochial Church Meeting, Wednesday 17th April
- Birlingham IW, Thursday 18th April
- Friends of St James' Church AGM, Monday 22nd April
- Churchyard Tidy-up, Saturday 27th April
- Airband and BT Broadband Update
- Road Closure, Upper End
- Birlingham Bystander – Spring Edition
- Pilates at Birlingham Village Hall
- Age UK: The Pershore Allotment
- Birlingham Bystander Archives – Autumn 2010 Edition
- Planning Applications – Broadgrove Nursery (refused)
- Recent photographs of the village and dates for your diary between now and the end of May

Birlingham **News 328 – 24 April 2024**

The online edition contains:

- Churchyard Tidy-up, Saturday 27th April
- Cuppa & Chat, Wednesday 1st May
- St James' Church News: Pet Service, Sunday 12th May
- Wychavon Parish Games
- Election of West Mercia Police & Crime Commissioner, Thursday 2nd May: Candidate photographs and details
- Recent photographs of the village and dates for your diary between now and mid-June

Birlingham **News 328 – 8 May 2024**

The online edition contains:

- St James' Church News: Pet Service, Sunday 12th May
- Birlingham IW, Thursday 16th May
- Annual Parish Meeting & Annual Parish Council Meeting, Tuesday 21st May
- The Birlingham Village Hall 100th Anniversary, 17th April 2025
- Election of West Mercia Police & Crime Commissioner: Results
- Birlingham Bystander No. 65 (Spring 2011)
- Recent photographs of the village and dates for your diary between now and the end of June