

Birlingham Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 19 September 2018

at Birlingham Village Hall

Councillors:

Councillor Allen, Aston, Byrne, Fitch, Griffin, New and Yates

Present:

County Councillor Hardman, District Councillor Davis, residents from Hall Farmhouse and The Ridings and June Hiden (Clerk).

Welcome

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were tendered by the Footpath Warden, Tree Warden and the Lengthsman.

2. 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.
- e) Dispensation forms have been received from all Councillors for the term of office ended May 2019,

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.

Councillor New declared an interest in Item 5 with respect to 3 Church Street.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on 18 July 2018, a copy of which has been circulated to all Councillors, was agreed as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

Democratic Opening

The meeting was adjourned for public question time. See [Appendix 1](#)

4. Progress Reports

- a) Footpaths. The Footpath Warden has carried out the following actions:
 - i. Footpath 511 (Withy Walk) – strimmed and cut back
 - ii. Footpath 512 (behind Gravelly Hill Cottages) – cut back.

The Warden asked that the complainant check that the path in the area of Gravelly Hill that was stated by the person to be overgrown, has been subsequently dealt with.

- b) Tree Warden. Nothing to report.
- c) District Councillor:
 - i) Wychavon District Council has been quiet over the summer albeit operational.
 - ii) The Waitrose project in Evesham is scheduled to open before Christmas.
 - iii) Once again Wychavon has won awards for their clean/well-kept parks in the three towns, Droitwich, Evesham and Pershore.
 - iv) There is still New Homes Bonus for Birlingham to be drawn down.

There was discussion on the Redstar planning application. The Parish Council referred to the background of Redstar's business and the intensification that this new proposal could have. The Parish Council feel there will be more vehicle movements. Highways have not objected. The Parish Council asked Councillor Davis to take the strong representation of comments of the members to full Committee and stress that conditions were needed to limit movements of HGVs at unsociable hours. Councillor Davis said it was not recommended to take to Committee however he would speak to the Planning Officer dealing with the case.

- d) County Councillor:
 - i) HGVs and vehicle movements – the Councillor was asked if there can be a weight restriction on the New Barn Road entrance to the village? Are there any options to prevent entry into the village off the Eckington Road?
 - ii) Demand on the acute hospital facilities due to demographic changes. The Councillor provided an update on the County Council budgetary process which is under considerable pressure due to the need to provide some 60 care in the community beds to support patients when discharged from Worcester Hospital.
 - iii) The demand in adult social care has resulted in an overspend by £12 million.
- e) Clerk - See [Appendix 2](#)
Information from the Lengthsman included.

5. Planning

- a) Current planning applications pending –
 - i. 18/01607 - Lower End Farm, Berwick Lane WR10 3AD

Take down timber summerhouse and erection of replacement summerhouse

Applicant: Mrs Ruth Keys

Parish Council comments – awaited
 - ii. 18/01442/FUL - Woodfield Farm, Broadway Road WR10 3AG

Extensions to existing packhouse facilities and dismantling three existing buildings and two glasshouses

Applicant: Red Star Growers Ltd

A site visit and tour to Redstar Growers has taken place.

Redstar have been made aware of lorries parking on the access roads into the village and they are currently reviewing their vehicle policy instructions to include both no vehicles parking on the roads into the village and if they are arriving in the early hours to park outside until the site opens.

Correspondence has been received from a resident that has thanked the Parish Council for looking into the proposals relating to Redstar.

Parish Council Comments:

"Representatives of the Parish Council met with the applicant and carried out a site inspection at their invitation on 7 August. We had a constructive discussion in which the Parish Council recognised the benefits this application would have to the applicants business and the applicant recognised the need to minimise the impact the business has on village residents.

In summary:

- The new build area is matched by the area of existing buildings to be demolished. So it does not represent an increased build foot print. The Parish Council understands the reasons for the development are to improve production flow, meet increasing Health and Safety requirements and increasing client requirements, as well as addressing labour efficiency issues.*

continued

- The main concern raised with the Parish Council by village residents relates to the existing level of vehicle movements and the fear that this application may result in a further increase in heavy traffic if the farm's operations expand, taking advantage of the more efficient cooling and packaging made available by the new buildings. The noise from HGV's arriving during the night and in the early hours of the morning is of particular concern for residents in Upper End whose properties are close to the narrow road. It is therefore especially important to ensure there is no increase in vehicle movements as a result of this proposal.*

The Parish Council would be prepared to support the application but would ask the planning officer to consider applying the following conditions as appropriate:

- There is no increase in vehicle movements as a result of this application. This seems reasonable as the applicant has assured the Parish Council that the development would not result in an increase in business.*

- Vehicle access to the site (and therefore the village) be prohibited before 6:00am in the summer (March to October) and 7:00am in the winter. This was discussed with the applicant and considered workable. Suggestions included advising hauliers who arrive overnight to park at Strensham Service Station on the M5 rather than coming into the village and parking in unauthorised areas.*

The reasoning behind these suggestions is based on the way the business operates as explained to us by the applicant:

- The vast majority of produce processed during March to October is from their own farm tenure, with a very small percentage being from other local farms who use the applicant to sell on to the applicants clients. Therefore, the vehicle movements in this period are generated from applicant grown produce client vehicles, and we were reassured that the volume of vehicles will not increase as there are no plans to increase their farm tenure or to increase the volume of local farms produce they handle.*

- From November to March, the applicant has more vehicle movements into the site, these mainly originating from abroad, when they buy in produce to package and sell on to the applicants clients. We are informed that the site is only manned and operational from 6am in the Summer and 7am in the winter. The suggested condition that prohibits access to the site by lorries prior to 6am and 7am in the summer and winter respectively is to stop lorries arriving too early and disturbing residents and also avoid parking in the village in unauthorised areas. Although we appreciate this might, in planning terms, be difficult to achieve, the applicant has agreed to instruct in writing it's winter delivery vehicles to arrive only from 7am onwards. Could this be considered please?"*

Additional information sent directly to the planning officer regarding a road traffic accident (example). On website.

b) Applications granted

i. 18/01289/HP – Barn at Lower Farm, Defford Road WR10 3BX

Minor internal alterations, provision of Conservation grade roof lights, enlarged gable end window, French windows and external steps

Applicant: Ian Yates

APPROVED 8 August

Parish Council comments:

“The Parish Council do not have any issues with the proposals which we believe are minor and allow in our view a more flexible use of the existing accommodation. The proposals we believe are also in line with two of the “Guidance for Development” contained in the Birlingham Village Design Statement July 2017:

- o *Alterations to existing buildings should respect the original design or aim to improve its contribution to the character of the parish*
- o *The views from existing properties should be respected wherever possible along with views considered of importance to residents”.*

ii. 18/01417/HP - Hall Farm House, Whitehall Lane WR10 3AB

Single storey rear extension

Applicant: Mr Paul Mouzer

APPROVED 10 September

Parish Council Comments:

“In considering the retrospective planning application: 18/01417, we have looked at previous applications on the property namely: 5/02078 and 11/00873. There are certain important conditions which affects the immediate environs and the village generally if they were not complied with and actioned previously.

5/02078:

-Within 3 months of the consent, the applicant was to implement the approved plan for vehicles access, and parking: please could you check this was implement strictly in line with the approved plan

- plans for 2 passing places where to be approved within 3 months of the consent and implemented within 3 months of the consent by an appropriately approved contractor authorized by the local authority. Please could you check this was implemented, as the Parish Council does not believe they were.

11/00873:

-waste management statement was to be submitted and approved prior to occupation. Please check this was done.

-the methodology for disposal of sewerage was to be approved by the local authority and implemented prior to occupation. Please check this was done?

- the 2 passing bays approval and implementation prior to occupation. Please check this was done, as the Parish Council does not believe so.

- please note condition 6 prohibits a rear extension to protect the amenities of the adjoining properties.

As a Parish Council we feel the above issues have a direct impact and bearing on application 18/01417 which is a retrospective application for a rear extension, in direct contravention of Condition 6 of 11/00873 which specifically prohibits a rear extension. Unless the applicant has been granted a dispensation from Condition 6, which we don't believe they have and unless all of the other conditions in 5/02078 and 11/00873 above have been formally approved and implemented by, as appropriate, an approved contractor, the Parish Council strongly objects to this application".

- c) Enforcement – nothing officially reported.
- d) 18/01612/CAN Tree works in conservation area:

Peacock Barn Lower End Birlingham WR10 3AD

Crab Apple Tree (T1) - limited reshaping, removing some lower branches that are hazardous and other branches that have grown excessively. Copper Beech (T2) - reduction in size of canopy by approximately ten per cent and pruning of branches that have grown excessively to improve appearance of tree Silver Birch (T3) - removal of tree planted too close to Copper Beech (T2) to enable proper growth of T2 Silver Birch (T4) - removal of tree growing too close to telegraph pole, endangering continuity of supply Himalayan Whitebeam (T5) - removal of tree planted too close to house, severely reducing light to main living rooms, and also showing signs of ill health. We will be planting a modest orchard of circa twelve native species of apple, plum and cherry in the autumn in the are marked on the plan, which will more than compensate for the three trees we would like to remove

6. Financial Matters

- a) The Accounts for year end 31 March 2019

- i) Bank balance is £5,508.94 as at 31 August 2018.

- ii) Receipts –

- £240.00 – Worcestershire County Council (Lengthsman May £144 and June £96)

- iii) Payments agreed: –

- £10.00 – CALC training GDPR (discussion in May 2018 invoice dated 9 July 2018 cheque number 398

- £144.00 – Lengthsman May) - £240.00

- £96.00 – Lengthsman June)

- cheque number 400

- £135.40 - Clerks PAYE – April, May, June

- cheque number 401

- £532.40 – Clerks pay – April, May, June

- cheque number 403

- £104.28 - Clerks expenses – April, May, June

- cheque number 405

- b) Payments for consideration

- i. £108.00 – Lengthsman July

- ii. £120.00 – Lengthsman August

- iii. £20.00 - Clerks training seminar CALC – finances/ bookkeeping and budgets

- iv. £24.55 - Correction on Clerks pay for year 2017/2018

- v. £8.50 – correction to PAYE for year 2017/2018
- vi. Clerks pay – July, August, September
- vii. Clerks PAYE – July, August, September
- viii. £104.28 - Clerks expenses – July, August, September
- ix. £55.00 – poppy wreath

There is a Remembrance service at Eckington on 11 November 2018 and a special service in Birlingham. Councillor Aston said she was willing to lay the wreath at Eckington in the absence of the Chairman.

- c) 2017 / 2018 External Audit – nothing further to report.
- d) Budget setting at the November meeting. Consideration to be given to:
 - Village hall charges have increased to £10.00 per hour but will not commence with the Parish Council until next financial year. The cost in any booking that has already been invoiced will be honoured.
 - Clerks salary
 - Projects

It was agreed that a pre-budget meeting will be held before the next meeting with the Chair, Vice-Chair, Financial Support Officer and the Clerk. This will take place on 17 October 2018.

It was noted that Provisions had not been transferred from the financial year end 2017/2018. This is usually done at the beginning of the next financial year. Clerk to action the transfers to the No 2 (savings account) of £1000.00.

7. Hard Back Books – Village Design Statement

The Chairman confirmed that the Village Design Statement books had been distributed to:

- Chairman
- Clerk
- Steven Byrne
- Steve Morris
- Paula Aston x 2
- Maryanne Dyer
- The HIVE
- St James' Church

Spare copies are held with the Chairman.

Bryan Horrocks correspondence - (30 July) states "*Just to confirm that the above has been delivered to Maggi Noke, Historic Environment Record (HER) Assistant, at the Hive Worcester. She was impressed with the presentation of the document*".

8. General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)

The GDPR action plan is being progressed by Councillor Allen. Councillor Allen apologies for not circulating the update as there are many processes and requirements. He will have to produce forms. The information from Kidwells solicitors via CALC has been passed by the Chairman to Councillor Allen.

Councillor Allen to circulate.

9. Policies

Complaints

The Complaints procedure was adopted in September 2016. Councillor Allen was due to review this in respect of the GDPR. It was agreed that the Clerk will circulate the policy to all Councillors for review and bring to the September meeting to finalise its status. Deferred.

Handling requests made under the Freedom and Information Act 2000

This matter may be something to cover under the GDPR. Councillor Allen to action.

Dealing with the press/media

Councillor Fitch and the Clerk have previously worked on this policy, but it was not formally adopted. It was agreed to adopt the policy for dealing with the press and media. Policy to be circulated to all Councillors. To be actioned by the Clerk.

Social media policy

Councillor Allen and Clerk to look at the policy and circulate a draft to all Councillors for review. Deferred.

10. Village Green, Millennium Bench, Plane Tree/ground works and Bus Stop Notice

Councillor Fitch gave an update.

- Ground works – still to be put right.
- Millennium Bench – Councillor Fitch has been looking at options for the Millennium Bench which has unfortunately been damaging the plane tree on the village green by cutting into the trunk. It has been raised and a gap created but this will only give a few more years growth. Should it be re-located? The Parish Council would need professional advice on where to move it and how. Councillor Fitch to continue to seek options. Councillor New to ask advice of a neighbour who is a carpenter.
- Plane Tree – continue to monitor any necessary works.
- Bus Stop - the requested bus stop sign would not be going ahead now that the Parish Council has been informed of a reduced bus service in future.

11. Signage for HGVs

The question had been asked again about more signage for HGVs in the village. The existing advisory signs in New Barn Road and the village green area had been funded by the County Councillor's budget. There was no further funding and Highways has previously said that there is not a restriction on HGVs using the classified road entrances into the village.

12. Drainage Improvement Works

The Clerk has been regularly sending out updates via the Birlingham News. The village green area will be closed temporarily while the drain is put in across The Avenue. The contractors are hoping to use a 'give and take' approach to minimise disruption. Works around the church are nearing completion. The second phase of the improvements is due to commence in November 2018 in Upper End.

13. Councillors' reports and items for next agenda

Speed Awareness – following a challenge for information a meeting is to take place with the Community Speed Watch Co-ordinator, Warwickshire Police and West Mercia Police and the local police officer from Pershore will also be in attendance.

14. Closure and date of next ordinary meeting - with nothing further to discuss the meeting closed at 8.50 pm and the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance.

The next Parish Council Meeting is on Wednesday 21 November 2018 at 7.00pm.

Signed: **Councillor Ian Yates, Chairman**

Date:

Appendix 1 – Democratic Opening

Upper End

A resident in Upper End is concerned that recent works to drains that are being carried out to reduce flooding are affecting his septic tank. Is storm water connecting with effluent? There is a new manhole behind the property with outfall into Porters track ditch. A technical officer has visited and put dye down. It is not known who has inspected but it is suspected that it will have been Regulatory Services. The Clerk will investigate this further.

Hall Farmhouse

The owner of Hall Farmhouse thanked the members for allowing him to come to the meeting to raise his concerns regarding his extension. He said he has been at the property for 20 years (originally one dwelling, Hall Farm and then subdivided) and feels the improvements over the years are balanced. The architect did not seek planning permission for the recent rear extension. The neighbours had no objections. Enforcement at Wychavon District Council came out saying the extension required planning permission. The Parish Council had not raised the complaint. The owner feels it is a low-key extension and that the Parish Council have unjustly given a strong objection to the development. The members said they had a duty to be even handed and balanced in planning matters. He said that no one had spoken to him.

The planning permission has since been granted and is not therefore unlawful. He felt upset by the comments of the Parish Council. The comments sent to Wychavon were the views of the entire Parish Council and complied by the 'lead', Councillor Byrne, on their behalf. The members have debated the planning process for comments. Maybe the members can have a conversation, but this is not technically how the system works. The Parish Council are bound by structure. The Parish Council duty is not just to look at current applications but also the history. The property has had two previous consents both with conditions. The owner confirmed that the consents (one of which was to subdivide the property) were not implemented and therefore the conditions attached to the decisions did not come into effect.

The Parish Council have a statutory duty to make observations, check conditions and make their comments which is the process they are required to follow. The members said that they understood that in this case a conversation may have been helpful. The owner appreciated the feedback and was satisfied with the Parish Council's explanation on how the planning comments are collated and dealt with. The planning decisions are made by Wychavon District Council and not by the Parish Council. Any covenants are not a planning consideration and any that are broken are a separate legal process.

Appendix 2 – Clerk's Report

Footpath Warden

24 July - Gravelly Hill Footpath – requires attention.

The Footpath Warden responded to a complaint and informed that he has inspected and cleared the area. Can the complainant inspect and acknowledge this is now alright?

Lengthsman reporting

UPPER END

GULLIES

23 July 2018

General response from Highways:

"Thank you for your enquiry regarding the blocked gully at Upper End. We inspected the site on the 23/07/2018 and have raised a four-week order to repair. The road will continue to be monitored as part of our routine inspection regime".

Reference Numbers 516209, 550483, 557395, 557393, 557394 - all report blocked gullies.

Reference Numbers 562676, 562679, 562683, 56268, 562682 - all report Highway drainage issues.

GULLIES continued

16 September 2018

Reference number 586938, 586939, 586940.

SIGNAGE

11 September 2018

Reference Number 562676 – 30mph sign missing presumed damaged by passing HVV

Update from WCC - Thank you for your enquiry: Inspected 8 September 2018. A works order has been placed to make safe/repair defect.

BROADWAY ROAD

28 July 2018: Reference Number 562684 - potholes

16 Sep 2018: Reference number 586941 – blocked gully

NEW BARN ROAD

2 September 2018: Reference Number 578741 - pothole

Highways

New Barn Road

Highways to Clerk

"With regards to the passing places in New Barn Rd, Birlingham, unfortunately, with the resources at my disposal I can only carry out repairs to the existing passing places, that is filling in potholes and ruts to make safe. Constructing new passing places is beyond my remit."

Capital Engineer - Projects

"I would be prepared to carry out localised repairs to the diversion route as previously carried out i.e. pot hole and rut filling but we could not commit to essentially installing new 'tarmac-ed' passing places. However, I will have a chat with Gerry about this and see if there is anything we can do that will not have a significant impact on the drainage programme or budget".

Site meeting with Highways, Adrian Hardman and Clerk August 2018

Agreement on constructing one 'passing place' near the 30mph sign on left side of highway as entering village above The Old Rectory.

18 September – Highways

"Whilst we have been waiting (Upper End works) the lads have managed to stone up the passing place".

Bus Stop

Despite a temporary bus stop in Church Lane the Firstbus company refused to enter the village saying it was closed due to the roadworks. The bus re-entered the village on 11 August 2018 and is able to pass to the south of the church.

A resident states

"I'm sure you already know that First Bus route 53 is not calling at Birlingham in spite of the assurance in the latest news.

I waited today for the 11.18 into Pershore along with another lady who told me she had also turned up for the 09.18 which failed to appear. After waiting for 30 minutes for the 11.18, I gave up, and got my wife to run me down into town. By this time the other lady had gone. I do not understand why they have put a temporary sign at the cricket pitch gate if they are not going through Birlingham.

I caught the 14.38 back from Pershore and the driver told me he was not allowed to drop passengers in Birlingham, so you have to walk in from the Eckington Road which was quite tiring in the heat. I queried it and he showed me the instructions confirming this on his on-board tablet. He also stopped at Cornmore to speak to his supervisor who confirmed that he could not drive into Birlingham. This happened to me on the 14.38 last Tuesday".

Clerks reply

I was assured by the County Council that Firstbus would come back into the village and I explained that a temporary bus stop sign was in place at the rear of the church. There was never any mention of the turning in Church Lane. This is frustrating and despite numerous telephone calls and a face to face with County Councillor Adrian Hardman the bus company refuse to divert saying Birlingham is closed.

It is even more disappointing today, when I asked for another update, to be sent a revised bus schedule with commences on 17 September 2018. The bus service will reduce to what appears to be non-existent. An article appeared in the Worcester News [http:// www.worcesternews .co.uk /news/16396531.lifeline-rural-bus-services-to-be-cut-in-worcestershire/](http://www.worcesternews.co.uk/news/16396531.lifeline-rural-bus-services-to-be-cut-in-worcestershire/) but I have not heard anything from any official sources.

There will be no subsidies as the County Council have no spare funding, so I have no idea what will happen in the next financial year (Spring).

There will be an update in the Birlingham News but it is all very disappointing.

Several other villagers thanked the Clerk for perusing travel issues and trying to get information regarding the bus and its future schedule. Any further updates have been published in the Birlingham News.

Caravan at Nafford - fishermen's car park

A resident informs Clerk of a caravan at Nafford. The landowner is notified, and other residents become aware of the siting. Clerk visits after the heavy rainfall and the caravan is gone.

29 July reply from the owner,

"Tony and Matt went down for me on Friday. He explained to the chap that the area was private land and that they could stay there until Sunday, but they had gone by Friday evening".

A4104 Defford Road by Kingfisher Marina – overgrown hedge

23 July

Kingfisher Marina / Tiddlesley Wood verge and hedge

Highways to Clerk

"I can now confirm that hedge notices have been sent to the two landowners with regards to the overgrown hedges on land off the A4104 Defford Rd by the Kingfisher Marina. The landowners are being instructed to cut their hedges back to allow free passage for pedestrians along the highway verge. I have also asked the parish gang to return to the small section of hedgeline, opposite the entrance to Lower Farm, to cut back further."

Clerk reply

"Thank you for your assistance. The 'cutter' has been down the hedgeline and it is improved. I will get the Lengthsman to trim back further if safe to do so because it's still tight in places. The seasonal workers and a regular walker from Eckington are using the road which is dangerous with the sight-line and busy highway".

SWDP Review – Village Facilities & Rural Transport Survey

30 July 2018 received from Fred Davies, Planning Policy Manager

"You will be aware that the South Worcestershire Councils i.e. Malvern Hills District Council, Worcester City Council, and Wychavon District Council, have recently consulted you on an updated methodology for assessing village facilities and services. We are now undertaking an update of the Village Facilities & Rural Transport Survey following on from the previous one which was carried out in August 2011. Your input will be used to inform our review of and provide appropriate evidence for the South Worcestershire Development Plan, which will be submitted for examination in February 2021. The information obtained will be used to inform the ranking of rural settlements in the South Worcestershire Development Plan Review (SWDPR).

As outlined in the review of the methodology, the previous survey included a section regarding internet accessibility and broadband speeds – this section has now been modified to ask if

there is free Wi-Fi available in any premises. Given the technological advances and investment over the previous seven years, broadband speed and internet accessibility has generally improved and is user defined as opposed to area defined.

All information relating to the VFRTS can be found by following the link below. Here you will be directed to the SWDP webpage comprising village [maps](#) and [response forms](#). The response form document is in Word format, so can be completed as is and returned by email which is our preference. We will also accept hard copy returns. A copy of the response form is also attached to this email for your convenience.

http://www.swdevelopmentplan.org/?page_id=13808

I would be grateful if your Parish Council could complete the survey forms and return by Friday 31st August (either by email or by post to VFRTS Survey, Policy Plans, Wychavon District Council, Civic Centre, PERSHORE WR10 1PT). If you require assistance in completing the response form or have any queries on the survey, please do not hesitate to contact Adam Bennett in the Policy Plans Team, Wychavon District Council on 01386 565156 / adam.bennett@wychavon.gov.uk or Rosie Murray on 01684 862354 / rosie.murray@malvern hills.gov.uk. I would like to thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter which is greatly appreciated".

The survey was circulated to all Councillors. It has been completed by the Clerk and returned to Wychavon District Council.

16 August - An automatically generated response was received from the South Worcestershire Development Plan Team acknowledging receipt of the email.

Licensing Consultation email

Sent to all Councillors.

1 August

Received from Wychavon District Council on behalf of Worcestershire Regulatory Services.

Notification of an application for the grant of a street trading consent

Name of applicant: Jason Paul Cooke

Location: All areas of Wychavon district as a mobile trader. Factory estates given as an example of a place where trading is to take place.

Summary of application: Application is made to sell ice creams and associated products on a mobile basis. Photos of the vehicle to be used for trading are included.

The intended trading hours are stated as "variable".

The applicant is registered as a Food Business Operator with Environmental Health and proof of appropriate public liability insurance has been provided.

Please quote reference number: 18/04358/STRETR in any communication.

Any feedback on the application was to be sent by 17 August 2018.

The information was noted but no response was sent.

Cotswold AONB eNewsletter summer 2018

6 August 2018 - Newsletter received from the Cotswolds Conservation Board.
Circulated to all Councillors.

Lengthsman training and equipment

From Richard Clewer, Lengthsman Scheme Manager, Senior Highways Liaison

1 August

"We are currently undertaking an audit to ensure that Parish Lengthsman are suitably trained to work in the public highway. Previous Lengthsman training comprised the 1-day LANTRA 12D course which was valid for 2 years and then required a refresher course. The new LANTRA training format for mobile works in the public highway requires the Lengthsman to complete the TTMB (Temporary Traffic Management Basic Course) half day course and within 6 months complete the LANTRA T1 part of the course (mobile works) another half day. This will then be valid for 5 years before. Both the Lengthsman, assistants and any sub-contractors you choose to appoint must hold the appropriate accreditation.

To ensure that our records are correct, please could you check with your Lengthsman, etc as to when they last attended a training course and the qualifications they hold".

Clerk has replied and given Carl Brassington's details.

17 August

Dear Clerk

Further to my previous email regarding Lengthsman training can I please remind you I need details of your lengths man's current qualifications for working in the highway by 1st September 2018, my thanks if you have already sent them.

Also, can I ask that you ensure the Lengthsman wears his PPE when working in the highway and could you please undertake an audit of PPE and signs etc and advise me should there be any shortfalls. The standard PPE and Safety equipment should be as follows

Yellow jacket, trousers and vest

1 number flashing beacon with magnetic fitting

2 number men at work signs

2 number road narrows signs

2 number keep right arrow signs

1 number magnetic car label reading "LENGTHSMAN"

6 number road cones

Lengthsman vehicles should be easily identifiable with chevrons on the rear

The Clerk has informed the manager and Carl is aware.

New Homes Bonus – feedback on Birlinghams 2 proposals

17 August

Dear June

Could you please provide feedback on the two projects, including photos, comments from the residents on how the NHB has helped and if the success measures mentioned in the proposals have been achieved.

Birlingham Cricket Club - Refitting of Ladies and Gentleman's Toilet facilities.

Success measures

More use of the ground by the local community.

- Clean hygienic facility.*
- Attract more female members.*
- Promote a more attractive facility.*

Birlingham Flower & Produce Show - Marquee

Success measures

Better organisation of village events.

*Thanks
Tracy Perkins*

*Localism and Communities Officer
Strategy and Communications
Wychavon District Council*

Email acknowledged, and a reply will be sent when information has been sourced from the groups concerned.

Adoption of the South Worcestershire: Renewable & Low Carbon Energy Supplementary Planning Document, Water Management & Flooding Supplementary Planning Document and the Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document

Fred Davies, Policy Manager Malvern Hills and Wychavon and Maria Dunn, Planning Policy Team Leader

"Following public consultation between 2nd February and 17th March 2018, the three South Worcestershire Councils (Malvern Hills District, Worcester City and Wychavon District) have now adopted the South Worcestershire Renewable & Low Carbon Energy Supplementary Planning Document, Water Management & Flooding Supplementary Planning Document and the Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document, with effect from 26th July 2018, at their relevant committee meetings.

Copies of the adopted Supplementary Planning Documents and the Statements of Consultation that show how the draft documents have been amended can be found on the following websites:

South Worcestershire Development Plan www.swdevelopmentplan.org

Malvern Hills District Council www.malvern hills.gov.uk

Worcester City Council www.worcester.gov.uk

Wychavon District Council www.wychavon.gov.uk

The official Adoption Statement is included below. Should you have any queries please write to: South Worcestershire Development Plan Team, c/o Civic Centre, Queen Elizabeth Drive, Pershore, WR10 1PT; by e-mail to: contact@swdevelopmentplan.org

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The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012

ADOPTION STATEMENT for Supplementary Planning Documents

Notice is hereby given that, in accordance with regulation 14 of the above regulations the south Worcestershire authorities [Malvern Hills District Council, Worcester city Council, and Wychavon District Council] adopted the following Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs):

South Worcestershire Renewable and Low Carbon Energy SPD

South Worcestershire Revised Developer Contributions SPD

South Worcestershire Water Management and flooding SPD

- a) On 17th July 2018 Malvern Hills District Council agreed to adopt the South Worcestershire Renewable and Low Carbon Energy SPD; The South Worcestershire Revised Developer Contributions SPD ;and the South Worcestershire Water Management and Flooding SPD
- b) On 23rd July 2018, Worcester City Council agreed to adopt the South Worcestershire Renewable and Low Carbon Energy SPD; The South Worcestershire Revised Developer Contributions SPD; and the South Worcestershire Water Management and Flooding SPD
- c) On 25th July 2018, Wychavon District Council agreed to adopt the South Worcestershire Renewable and Low Carbon Energy SPD; The South Worcestershire Revised Developer Contributions SPD; and the South Worcestershire Water Management and Flooding SPD
- d) That any person with sufficient interest in the decision to adopt any of the SPDs may apply to the High Court for permission to apply for judicial review of that decision.
- e) That any such application must be made promptly and in any event not later than 3 months after 26th July 2018.

Area Covered:

The three Supplementary Planning Documents are applicable to the areas covered by Malvern Hills District, Worcester City Council and Wychavon District Council.

Subject Matters:

- 1) South Worcestershire Renewable and Low Carbon Energy SPD

The Renewable and Low carbon Energy SPD sets out guidance on how the requirements in Policy SWDP 27 relating to Renewable and Low Carbon Energy should be applied. It includes guidance on what must be provided in Energy Assessments; Issues that need to be considered when examining the potential for decentralized energy and heat networks in large scale development proposals to comply with SWDP 27B; the various renewable and low carbon energy technologies and the planning issues associated with each technology that will need to be addressed.

2) *The South Worcestershire Revised Developer Contributions SPD*

The South Worcestershire Developer Contributions SPD sets out guidance relating to the collection of developer contributions, to be used when determining planning applications.

3) *South Worcestershire Water Management and Flooding SPD*

This SPD sets out in detail the SWC approach to minimising flood risk, managing surface water and achieving sustainable drainage systems. This applies to both new and existing development whilst ensuring that the reduction, re-use and recycling of water is given priority and water supply and quality is not compromised. It relates to policies SWDP28, SWDP29 and SWDP30 of the adopted SWDP, relating to flood risk, Sustainable Drainage Systems and water supply”.

CALC – Area Report

Elections will be held on 2 May 2019.

Highway Drainage Improvement

18 September

The Avenue - road closure for tomorrow for 2-3 days.

Upper End - The gang is nearly finished in the garden at Barncroft but we are having to wait for STW to attend site and address a water main issue.

Church Lane - install the new road gullys at the rear of the church.

19 September

Give and Take system which prevented road closure

Update from Chairman of Birlingham Village Hall

The Chairman says

“We still need to do a little more fund-raising but if we wait until we have all of the money the lead time to secure the contractor will prevent us drawing down the main grant. We discussed potential start dates in July and the earliest on offer was January 2019. Therefore in anticipation that we will raise the money in time we took that earliest start date. Weather permitting a start will be made straight after New Year”.

Birlingham News (extracts of relevance)

Birlingham **News 162**

25 July

With the good weather set to continue into next month, we have news of a barbecue at Birlingham Village Hall on Sunday 19th August.

In this issue:

Cuppa & Chat, Wednesday 1st August

St James' Church Services – August

Birlingham Photography Club, Tuesday 7th August

Birlingham BBQ, Sunday 19th August

Harvest Festival, Sunday 16th September

Roadworks in Rectory Lane

Bus Services During Roadworks

Parish Council Report

Vale Magazine Walk – Apology

Anti-Social Behaviour

Rural Crime Prevention

6. Roadworks in Rectory Lane

The Parish Clerk writes:

The upgrade of the drainage system in Birlingham has started in Rectory Lane and will continue there for up to three weeks. There will be a three-way traffic-light control in operation week commencing 6th August to enable the pipe laying across the road by the war memorial. This will affect traffic travelling into Whitehall Lane and Lower End.

Your patient is appreciated during the works.

7. Bus Services During Roadworks

The Parish Clerk writes:

Apologies to anyone who has tried to use the bus service X53 and X54 and was refused assistance into the centre of the village. Worcestershire County Council have been contacted today and have reassured us that First Bus will be informed that the village is not closed.

A temporary bus stop will be in use, which is situated at the cricket ground entrance, so rather than south of the church the place to get on or off the bus is north of the church for the next few weeks.

8. Parish Council Report

Ian Yates writes:

At its meeting on 18th July, Birlingham Parish Council discussed a number of issues, including the following:

The new Community Legacy Grant scheme, which replaces the old New Homes Bonus scheme

The provision of a permanent bus stop outside the church; more information on this will be given when it is available from Worcestershire County Council

Future works relating to the Green, the plane tree and the Millennium Bench

The printing of hardback editions of the Village Design Statement, which will be publicly available for reference

Full minutes of the Parish Council meeting will be available in due course.

9. Vale Magazine Walk – Apology

Edward Farrar writes:

The July edition of the Vale Magazine featured a walk that included Birlingham. Unfortunately, the description of the walk referred to 'Burlingham' several times. This error has been pointed out to the editor, who replied:

'I apologise for that glaring error, which should have been picked up at several stages of the editorial process. We will acknowledge the mistake, and the beautiful village of Birlingham, in the imminent August issue.'

The author of the walk, Ian Tustin, has also apologised directly. He said he was to blame for the error and asked if his apologies could be passed on to the people of Birlingham.

10. Anti-Social Behaviour

The Parish Clerk writes:

The Parish Council is aware of a number of noise complaints within the village recently. Please could we ask you to be considerate of your neighbours and to remember we all need to get along together!

Should you need to, further ways of dealing with this more formally are given at <http://www.worcsregservices.gov.uk/nuisances/noise.aspx>.

11. Rural Crime Prevention

The Parish Clerk writes:

Following recent attempted break-ins in Birlingham, the information (and links) below may be useful.

West Mercia Police say that marking your property – for example, with SmartWater – is a positive way to fight crime; it can act as a deterrent, it allows you to prove ownership and it helps you to identify your property easily if it is offered for sale. Marking your property also provides a means for the police to identify stolen goods and return them to their owners.

The police also have a number of other security tips for rural properties. These tips, plus information on SmartWater, are given at www.birlingham.org/docs/rural_crime_2.pdf. For further information on all aspects of security, visit <https://www.westmercia.police.uk/crime-and-safety>.

West Mercia Police now have an Evesham and Pershore Neighbourhood Watch Facebook page. Go to <https://www.facebook.com/eveshampershorenw>.

Our local police officers also have a new Facebook page, [https:// www. Facebook .com /PersoreCops](https://www.facebook.com/PershoreCops).

Birlingham **News 163** – 8 August

This issue contains an update on the roadworks and a reduction in bus services.

In this issue:

Birlingham BBQ, Sunday 19th August

Canapes and Fizz, Friday 21st September

Roadworks in Rectory Lane and Church Street

Bus Services During Roadworks

Revised Bus Timetables

Planning Applications

3. Roadworks in Rectory Lane and Church Street

The Parish Clerk writes:

I have been informed that the drainage works in Rectory Lane will be scaled down (or even closed down) this week due to shortages. Rectory Lane was ahead of schedule, albeit still needing to do the connection below the war memorial but this is now delayed.

Works at the Short Hill end of Church Street will not now begin until the Rectory Lane work has been completed.

4. Bus Services During Roadworks

The Parish Clerk writes:

Despite assurances by First Bus that the bus service would resume its route through Birlingham during the roadworks, and the placing of a temporary bus stop at the cricket ground entrance, it appears that the company have instructed their drivers not to come into the village. The reason given is the tightness of the turn into Church Lane. As a result, several residents have waited for buses that did not turn up.

For the time being, the nearest pick-up/drop-off point is in Eckington Road by Brook Cottages. We will let you know when buses are running into the village centre again.

5. Revised Bus Timetables

The Parish Clerk writes:

Birlingham Parish Council September 2018

You may have seen an article that appeared in Worcester News relating to cuts in First Bus services (<http://www.worcesternews.co.uk/news/16396531.lifeline-rural-bus-services-to-be-cut-in-worcestershire>).

It is disappointing to be sent a revised bus schedule, which commences on Monday 17th September 2018. The bus service will be greatly reduced. There will be no subsidies as the County Council has no spare funding. Service 53 will no longer run from mid-morning until early afternoon and service 54 no longer runs in early evenings.

The timetables for revised services 53 and 54 can be viewed at [www. Birlingham .org/ docs /bus_timetable_53_2018.pdf](http://www.birlingham.org/docs/bus_timetable_53_2018.pdf) and [www. birlingham.org /docs/bus_ timetable_54_2018.pdf](http://www.birlingham.org/docs/bus_timetable_54_2018.pdf) .

As the two services follow different routes, we have summarised the times for the main destinations in a single timetable, which can be viewed at www.birlingham.org/docs/bus_timetable_2018_sep.pdf.

6. Planning Applications

The following planning applications have been received by the Parish Council:

Hall Farm House, Whitehall Lane: Single storey rear extension (Case No. 18/01417). Awaiting decision by Wychavon District Council. (Consultation period ends on 21st August.) Full details can be viewed on the Wychavon DC website at <https://plan.wychavon.gov.uk/plandisp.aspx?recno=97519>.

Woodfield Farm, Broadway Road: Extensions to existing packhouse facilities and dismantling three existing buildings and two glasshouses (Case No. 18/01442). Awaiting decision by Wychavon District Council. (Consultation period ends on 30th August.) Full details can be viewed on the Wychavon DC website at <https://plan.wychavon.gov.uk/plandisp.aspx?recno=97544>.

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

Lower Farm, Defford Road: Minor internal alterations, provision of Conservation grade roof lights, enlarged gable end window, French windows and external steps (Case No. 18/01289). Approved. Full details and conditions can be viewed on the Wychavon DC website at <https://plan.wychavon.gov.uk/plandisp.aspx?recno=97391>. The Parish Council comments are available at www.birlingham.org/pc_info/pc_comments_18_01289.pdf.

Due to the increasing number of items we are receiving, Birlingham News will now be published in both the fourth and fifth weeks of those months that have five Wednesdays. If you have any information that you would like included, please email us at news@birlingham.org.

Birlingham **News 164** – 22 August

In this issue:

Flower & Produce Show, Saturday 1st September

Sixties Evening, Saturday, 13th October

Roadworks in Rectory Lane, Church Street and Upper End

Bus Stop and Revised Timetables

Revised Bus Timetables – Petition

Birlingham Parish Council September 2018

Women's Tour 2018

Wychavon Village of Culture 2019

3. Roadworks in Rectory Lane, Church Street and Upper End

The Parish Clerk writes:

Works in Rectory Lane and at the Church Street/Short Hill junction have almost finished. The drainage connection below the war memorial into the Avenue is waiting for the traffic lights to be installed before the works can continue safely. There will be a three-way system in operation when this commences, so please be aware of the delays this may cause if you drive in this area.

The works in Upper End 'off road' will begin shortly. Should the highways gang's safety be affected at any stage here then they will operate a 'stop and go' traffic management but the intention is to do whatever is possible without affecting vehicle movements.

4. Bus Stop and Revised Timetables

The 53 and 54 services run by First Bus are now passing through the village centre again. The bus stops are back in their usual positions, next to and opposite the Village Hall.

The greatly reduced service comes into effect on Monday 17th September; however, the remaining buses will still come through the village centre. The summary of new bus times is available at www.birlingham.org/docs/bus_timetable_2018_sep.pdf.

5. Revised Bus Timetables – Petition

The Parish Clerk writes:

Following the decision by First Bus Ltd to reduce bus services in the area from Monday 17th September, Councillor Natalie McVey, who is a member of Malvern Hills District Council, has set up an e-petition to encourage First to reverse the planned cuts to timetables in South Worcestershire. The e-petition is at

<https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/stop-first-buses-from-carrying-out-devastating-cuts-to-timetables-in-sourh-worcestershire>.

For those who cannot access the e-petition, a blank petition form is available at www.birlingham.org/docs/bus_cuts_petition.pdf.

7. Wychavon Village of Culture 2019

The 'Wychavon Village of Culture 2019' competition is now open. The competition is to promote and increase the impact of culture in the district. Villages are encouraged to develop programmes, which can include a mixture of visual arts, literature, music, theatre, heritage, sports and more. Programmes will need to reach a wide variety of audiences, lead to a lasting social impact and create a legacy for the area.

The winning area will be awarded £5,000, with two runners up receiving £1,000 each, to deliver their programme during 2019. To apply, areas need to submit an online expression of interest form to Wychavon District Council by Friday 21st September 2018.

The form and further information are available at www.wychavon.gov.uk/village-of-culture.

Birlingham **News 165** – 29 August

It's Harvest Festival soon and we also have more details of the Canapes and Fizz evening later in September.

In this issue:

Flower & Produce Show, Saturday 1st September

St James' Church Services – September

Birlingham Photography Club, Tuesday 4th September

Cuppa & Chat, Wednesday 5th September

Harvest Festival at St James', Sunday 16th September

Canapes and Fizz, Friday 21st September

Friends of St James' – New Chairman

Birlingham **News 166** – 12 September

With Harvest Festival, Parish Council and Canapes & Fizz, there's a busy week ahead.

In this issue:

Harvest Festival at St James', Sunday 16th September

Revised Bus Timetables, Monday 17th September

Parish Council Meeting, Wednesday 19th September

Canapes and Fizz, Friday 21st September

Drainage Works

Planning Applications

2. Revised Bus Timetables, Monday 17th September

The greatly reduced 53 and 54 services run by First Bus come into effect on Monday 17th September. Although many of the services have been cut, the remaining buses will still come through Birlingham village centre. The bus stops are next to and opposite the Village Hall.

A summary of the new bus times is available at www.birlingham.org/docs/bus_timetable_2018_sep.pdf.

3. Parish Council Meeting, Wednesday 19th September

The next meeting of Birlingham Parish Council takes place on Wednesday 19th September at 7.00pm in Birlingham Village Hall. During the meeting there is an opportunity to express your views on local issues, so please come along.

Birlingham Parish Council September 2018

The agenda for the meeting will shortly be available at www.birlingham.org/pc_info/pc_agenda_2018-09-19.pdf and the draft minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting on 18th July can be viewed at www.birlingham.org/pc_info/pc_minutes_2018-07-18.pdf.

5. Drainage Works

The Parish Clerk writes:

The drainage works are continuing, although they are not as visible as the highways gang are currently working on private land in Upper End.

As you are aware there are still completion works needed to connect the new system on Rectory Lane into the existing system just below the war memorial in the Avenue. Despite the original intention to use traffic lights, health and safety policy at Highways means this is now not feasible, as the minimum working safety widths for the contractors are not achievable. Therefore, the works in this area will have to be done under a road closure. The intention is to have the closure for a couple of days but hopefully the road will only be completely closed for one day. This will cause inconvenience to Whitehall Lane particularly, so you may have to consider parking your vehicle outside the road closure area.

I will try to keep you informed. As soon as I have any more information I will let you know.

6. Planning Applications

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

Hall Farm House, Whitehall Lane: Single storey rear extension (Case No. 18/01417). Approved. Full details and conditions can be viewed on the Wychavon DC website