Birlingham Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 21 July 2021

By videoconferencing

Councillors:

Councillor Aston, Cook, Griffiths, Luff, Porter and Yates.

Present:

County Councillor Hardman, District Councillor Davis and June Hiden (Clerk). Member of the public Paul Burton attended.

Welcome – The Chairman thanked everyone for attending.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were tendered by Steven Byrne and these were accepted. Apologies from the Footpath Warden, Bruce Hayward, Lengthsman, Carl Brassington and Tree Warden, Rupert Keys.

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 2024.

Interests were declared by Councillor Maxine Cook regarding Item 10 for involvement with the Jubilee Committee.

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.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on 19 May 2021, 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.

- Orchard House, Church Street renaming. The new owners are proposing to change the house name and they enquired about calling it Gardeners Cottage but there is already that property name in Lower End. They may now call it Clarks Cottage but will discuss further. This is a Wychavon District Council formality anyway.
- Footpaths – Footpath 506 near The Old Rectory goes diagonally across the agricultural field. The field edge is well used when crops are planted and this assists the farmer. The irrigation device was obstructing the non-designated route.

4. Progress Reports

a) Footpath Warden:

Requests had been received by the Clerk about the path by the Old Rectory and Orchard House. Both have been actioned, as below.

i. Footpath 500 (behind Birlingham Nurseries) – strimmed and hedges cut back.
ii. Footpath 506 (land off village green) – strimmed.
iii. Footpath 511 (Withy Walk) – cleared by landowner and strimmed.
iv. Footpath 518 (Asham Lane) – track cleared by WCC contractors.
v. Footpath 520 (by Nafford House) – strimmed.
vi. Footpath 521 – kissing gate cleared.

b) Tree Warden:

There was not much to report to the Parish Council.

For information: Rupert Keys was in conversation with Steve Morris, Jubilee Committee regarding trees in the Jubilee Wood. There was a replanting scheme needed and 210 saplings could be supplied in November. Both parties to meet to discuss and make the Wood more attractive.

Actioned as follows:

The Parish Council were made aware of the Queen's Green Canopy scheme which is a tree-planting initiative to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022. The Woodland Trust are a partner in the campaign and are making tree saplings available free of charge. This seemed a great opportunity to try and improve the Jubilee Wood which has suffered with several dead trees. Steve Morris from the Jubilee Committee has ordered 210 saplings for delivery in November and Rupert Keys our tree warden will advise and assist with the planting.

c) District Councillor:

Councillor Ron Davis was attending the local authority Full Council meeting so had sent a brief report:

i. The local authority is trying to get back to normal but staff are still working from home on a number of days a week and in the office for the rest of the week.
ii. Travellers on the move are causing concern in the area so keep alert!?

Councillor Davis' meeting finished and he was then able to join the Parish Council meeting. He reiterated that the travellers had been on Abbey Park and then moved to Eckington. He said to be mindful in the countryside and of open spaces.

There is to be more investment on Vale Park, Evesham.
The reserves were good before the pandemic and there have been some government grants to Wychavon District Council.
The LGA are doing an independent review of the Planning Department in August as the Members are not happy with staffing problems and self-isolating. The planning applications are taking longer. There are also problems with tree applications and the granting of permissions for tree works.
Agreed that the additional name to the war memorial should be common sense and that other local ones, for example Ettington have done this.

The District Councillor advised that is there are any problems in the Parish which require his input to please let him know.

b) County Councillor:

The Clerk had advised Councillor Hardman that the resurfacing work in Lower End, across Broadway Road to Church Street has now been completed. The Parish Council thanked Councillor Adrian Hardman for his support in getting this work done.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Hardman for joining the meeting.

c) Clerk - See ***Appendix 1***
Information from the Lengthsman is included.

5. Planning

a) Planning applications pending:-

i. 21/01048/HP - Field Cottage, The Avenue WR10 3AB

Two storey rear extension, single storey side extensions and Air Source Heat Pump

Applicant - Amy Purcell

Parish Council comments:

"The existing buildings proportions and aesthetic appeal is very much appreciated by the village and the members of the Parish Council, especially with its proximity to the conservation area. The current buildings symmetrical style and shape are deemed to add to the village and the conservation area in proximity.

The Parish Council also note that two healthy trees are to be removed, which is cause of some concern. The Parish council feel that the larger rear and side extensions represent an over development of the site and is excessive.

We also note that the applicant purports that a previous planning consent extension has been commenced to sufficient degree that it is a technical and formal commencement of development and therefore has implemented the previous owners consent. The Parish council would dispute this, in that no "adequate and proper foundations" to take the brick line of the former consented extension, have been implemented, and that we leave it to the planning officer to assess, based on case law, whether, if this is the case, the previous consent has lapsed. If this is the case the current application is a fresh application and stands alone without the support of a partly implemented previous consent. Can the case officer also please check the distance of the proposals to the rear (wester) boundary and its implications?

However, the Parish Council would support a smaller rear extension, in the rendered style of the existing property, with no side extension fronting onto the road."

b) Applications granted:-

i. 21//00370/LB - The Row, Lower End

18no replacement windows Listed building consent

APPROVED – 25 May 2021

Parish Council comments:

"The Parish Council support the application but would expect the appointed planning officer to assess the appropriateness of the proposed window specification in relation to the building and its prominent location."

ii. 21/00833/HP - 3 Court Cottages Upper End WR10 3AA

Opening up of existing internal and external doorways and installation of new roof lights.

And associated listed building consent - 21/00834/LB
Opening up of existing internal and external doorways and installation of new roof lights

APPROVED - 22 June 2021

Parish Council comments:

"The Parish council have no objections to the proposals, themselves, with the proposals improving the usage of the accommodation, with little to no detrimental effect on the building or surrounding properties. However, we would rely on the appointed planning officer to ensure the detailed design and materials are appropriate."

c) Enforcement – none.

6. Financial Matters

a) The Accounts for 2021/2022

i. Bank balance (current) is £9,494.63 as at 29June 2021. Business saving balance is £7,790.27 as at 15 June 2021.

ii. Receipts –

i. £306.12 – HMRC VAT refund
ii. £187.50 – Lengthsman April
iii. £165.00 – Lengthsman May

iii. Payments: –

i. Clerk's 2020/2021 specific expenses – none (for the record)
ii £225.80 – CALC (service charge per elector 171.28 net and Nalc affiliation fee £20.26*)* 613
iii. £257.60 – Zurich Insurance 1/6/21 – 31/5/22 614
The receipt for the renewal has been received (10/6/21)
iv. £187.50 – Lengthsman April 2021 616

b) Payments for consideration –

i. £100.00 - War memorial – scaled drawing, location plan and block plan Item 16 below
ii. £165.00 – Lengthsman May 2021
iii. £150.00 - Lengthsman June 2021
iv. £600.00 – Clerk's pay (April, May, June)
v. £104.28 – Clerk's expenses (April, May, June)
vi £150.00 – PAYE (April, May, June)

c) Savings account – transfer of £1,000.00 from current account to the savings account has been actioned by the Clerk.

The Clerk read out the Notification of Exempt status 2021 from PKF Littlejohn accountants.

7. Millennium Bench

The Millennium bench had been removed as the tree trunk was moving it which was causing damage. It has originally been made by a local carpenter. So far it has been quite a journey in finding a skilled craftsman to restore it and it was found to be rotten and worse than thought.

Clarian is now doing it as a 'labour of love' with the carpenter's free time at no additional cost because the materials alone were using all of the original quotation of £1,000. This is extremely generous of him.

Councillor Cook has visited the workshop and taken photographs. The work on restoring the bench is progressing well and it is almost rebuilt with one panel left to do. Sections have been replaced, batons changed and the legs restored. This has meant several new parts have had to be manufactured. It is hoped it can be completed in August for installation on the village green in the autumn.

Rupert Keys is busy currently. The original sign of Alan Cooper's (original carpenter) will be put back on the seat. The Parish Council also agreed that another plaque should be placed on the bench now to the current carpenter.

Rupert and the Chairman will go over to look at the bench before it comes back to the village.

8. Full Fibre Broadband (Fibre to the Premises – FTTP)

The Parish Council has been investigating the Government's Gigabit Voucher Scheme that can be used to fund the provision of Full Fibre Broadband to homes as part of a community project. The benefit is higher speeds (up to 1Gb/s) and a more reliable service. An explanatory leaflet has been circulated with the Bystander to all properties, encouraging residents to sign up for the scheme. There is no cost as the installation should be funded through the vouchers. The response has been very encouraging with more than a third of the village already signed up.

The members will pair up to go to houses to gain more interest explaining that fibre is more reliable and there should not be a cost to the property. With this extra 'permission' there is enough interest to go to Openreach at this stage. Councillor Michael Porter will get an updated list of registrations.

The Chairman will do a reminder in the Birlingham News about the scheme and give the contact details of the email set up for the scheme - birlinghamgigabit@gmail.com. The cut-off date for this is the end of August.

9. War Memorial

Previously research into the First World War had been done in respect of the village and it was discovered that Frederick Quarrell, a villager who died during the war, did not have his name included on the Birlingham war memorial. The Parish Council therefore decided to apply for New Homes Bonus funding to pay for his name to be added. The funding is £300.00. This work was somewhat delayed due to Covid-19 but the Parish Clerk will now progress a formal application to the local authority as the war memorial has listed status. The Clerk needs to identify a stonemason who can add the inscription. This is proving difficult as it is specialist work. One company has declined and two are due to visit. Another contact was given to the Clerk by Councillor Porter to assist.

10. Telephone Kiosk

The telephone box has been in a sad state for some time and needs some maintenance. It is no longer owned by BT and was adopted by the Parish Council a few years ago. It has been

used by the Flower & Produce Show in the past. It is much loved by residents as an icon from the pre-mobile phone age. Many ideas for its future use have been proposed but these need to be practicable. The Jubilee Committee are putting together a proposal to restore the box. They are looking for volunteers to help with this and a message will go in the Birlingham News. If volunteer labour can be found, then the cost of materials will be met from Jubilee funding and from the Parish Council Community Fund. The Clerk has also asked a resident for a quotation.

11. SmartWater

Councillor Aston clarified that there were still some kits left as it was believed they had all gone. There are nine kits left with two to go out to residents leaving seven over. These are available free of charge to any new or existing resident who would like one. A message will go out in the Birlingham News giving Paula Aston's contact.

The signage for the SmartWater will then be ready to go.

12. Permissive Footpaths

Public rights of Way are on the Worcestershire County website and there is a link on the village website. Permissive footpaths are known by villagers and are used at the discretion of the local farmer. Recently signage has been put up on some permissive paths due to 'misuse'. The signage on Swans Neck has been vandalised.

An insert will be placed in the Bystander regarding the permission and this will be approved by the farm manager.

13. Berwick Lane

Berwick Lane is due for road closure for drainage work. There has been a persistent water leak at the top of Berwick Lane near Lower End Farm. This has caused some flooding and is a problem in winter when it freezes. Despite drains being jetted several times it has not fixed the problem. The Parish Clerk has been working with the Highways Project Team and has been informed that Berwick Lane will now be closed from Monday 16th August for at least 12 days while a new drain is installed. Residents affected are aware of the closure and landowners and fishermen will also be informed. Work will also need to be co-ordinated with the Environment Agency, who have been working at the weir at Nafford Lock.

14. Councillors' reports and items for next agenda

<u>War memorial</u> – flowers.

Councillor Maxine Cook proposed that it would be attractive to plant some flowers by the war memorial, as other villages have done. The flowers would be in troughs and members discussed these being purchased through the project funds. A message will be placed in Birlingham News in case anyone has an objection to this idea. This will be discussed again at the next meeting for approval and if possible, work would start during the planting season next year.

Councillor Cook will volunteer to oversee and will ask the nursery if they are willing to donate any plants.

<u>Signage at Upper End</u>

Is it possible for District Councillor Davis to investigate the address sign that is broken on the junction at Upper End?

15. **Closure and date of next ordinary meeting** - with nothing further to discuss the meeting closed at 9.30pm and the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance.

The next Parish Council Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 15 September 2021 at 7.00pm. The Clerk is not available on this date and therefore members agreed to hold the meeting on Monday 13 September 2021. The meeting is proposed to return to face to face and to be held in Birlingham Village Hall but should Covid affect this, it will be held by videoconferencing.

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

Date: ……..……..……..……

Appendix 1 – Clerk's Report

Lengthsman

Reporting:

UPPER END

Near Hills Cottage

Reference Number 1051405 – 19 May / pothole

Reply from Worcestershire County Council, "*Thank you for informing us of a Highways, Pothole issue. All enquiries are prioritised based upon the information provided. We will investigate the reported issues."*

Highways update: 21 May: "*Thank you for your enquiry we have inspected the site and have raised a four-week order for repair.*"

Defford Road

Reference Number 1051404 – 19 May / pothole

Highways update: 22 May: "*Thank you for your enquiry we have inspected the site and have raised a four-week order for repair*."

Reference Number 1049073 - gully full

Highways update: 27 May: "*Thank you for your enquiry we have inspected the site and have raised a four week order*."

Reference Number 1048315 – gully full

Highways update: 27 May: "*Thank you for your enquiry we have inspected the site and have raised a four-week order.*"

Reference Number WBM-7993355 - 17 June - Fly tipping report; Black bin bag lying on the verge

Reference Number 1077937 – pothole

Reference Number 1077949 Junction of A4104 – 6 July pothole

Reply from Worcestershire County Council: "*All enquiries are prioritised based upon the information provided. We will investigate all reported issues within 28 working days*."

Highways update: 8 July: "*Thank you for your enquiry we have inspected the site and have raised a one-week order for repair*."

25 July - "*I cut some visibility splays last week but the cow parsley is growing so fast. I'll do it this week."*

LOWER END

Meadow Lane

Reference Number 1051406 - near Clock House

Highways update: "*We will investigate within 28 working days*."

21 May: "*Thank you for your enquiry we have inspected the site and have raised a one-week order*."

Grange Lane

"*Lifted the manhole and it is blocked*."

Grass cutting on the junction of the A4104

A resident asked if the visibility splays could be cut on the junction due to the fast-approaching traffic.

Clerks replied:

"*If you recall at the meeting the County Councillor said, "no mow, May" and was surprised how the village itself had been cut by the Highways before the main roads. The grass has gone a bit mad with the weather we've had recently.*

It does get like this occasionally and I believe they only cut twice a year. If it's not done shortly, I may have to ask the Lengthsman to strim it off a little but we resist using his budget because it means we have no money in reserves should the village need it this current financial year, particularly if we get bad weather."

County Councillor replied:

"*I also think it has got so long and wet they are struggling! Still as I said in my report "wet may, barns of hay*".

Clerk to resident:

"*I have spoken to the Lengthsman and he will see what can be done in the next couple of days to take the top of the vegetation. Just for note he did cut the visibility splays / cow parsley last week but everything is growing so fast*."

Response from resident:

"*Thanks ever so much for the update and for actioning this. I only mentioned due to the safety aspect - I think the grasses and flowers look wonderful and we're certainly embracing no-mow May with our daisy-filled lawn*."

PCC Town and Parish Council Survey – request from West Mercia Police Commissioner

The OPCC (Commissioner) wrote:-

"*I want to ensure communities have the opportunity to shape policing priorities and raise the issues that matter to them, the Town and Parish Council survey is just one of a number of ways I do this.*

The opinions and feedback provided throughout my last term helped to show where improvements needed to be made and I acted on those by providing extra investment into roads policing as well as a variety of road safety initiatives, the introduction of a dedicated rural focus campaign and extra police officers on the frontline. The recently launched Local Policing Charter, is an example of how the force and I, have listened to communities and are taking action to improve the service the public receive. I am now inviting every town and parish council across West Mercia to complete this year's survey questionnaire and would encourage as many town and parish councils as possible to complete it.

I intend to compare this year's results to those I received in the previous years and will be using the results to inform my discussions with the Chief Constable on local policing.

I have also sent this out through the Associations of Local Councils that you may be a member of but I wanted to send this directly to you to ensure you received it and have the chance to respond.

The results of the survey will be available to view on my website: www.westmercia-pcc.gov.uk."

The Chairman completed the survey. His comments were, "*Not easy to complete the survey as we have little or no contact with the Police other than occasionally through Julie Pardoe. Considering we are a small community we have had our fair share of crime:*

- *Bird hide was broken into and vandalised*
- *Game birds were stolen from shoot*
- *Two separate incidents of quad bike thefts*
- *Mower theft from cricket club*
- *Fly tipping at Lower End*
- *Antisocial behaviour at Nafford last summer*
- *Environment Agency containers broken into at Nafford*
- *Resident's catalytic converter (stolen in Pershore)*
- *Speeding traffic in village"*

Broadway Road / Lower End / New Barn Road

The Clerk and Revills had various communications about the road resurfacing on Broadway Road. The first works were scheduled for Monday 21 June and that the road would be closed for short periods. This would cause difficulties at the farm during the time of closure. Ringway rescheduled the work on Broadway Road for a Sunday afternoon – like when the repairs were carried out a couple of months ago.

Sunday 4 July - rescheduled which was accommodating for Woodfield and residents – unfortunately, this was abandoned at Southmede due to the heavy rain.

Sunday 18 July – works completed and the Design and Build section at County had been in contact with the farm regarding the works to limit delivery disruptions. The farm was also contacting Ringway and the contractors for information.

The Parish Council thanked Revills for their co-operation as each time the hauliers had to be contacted and the yard staff left early. The lorries were told to come to the farm by 11am so that they were all loaded and away from the village by 12 noon.

Adrian Hardman was thanked for his assistance with this matter.

South Worcestershire Rural Parish Council Contact Contracts

Email 15 June 2021 from Lorraine Parker, Police Support Volunteer, South Worcestershire Safer Neighbourhood Team.

"As part of the West Mercia Local Policing Charter, we are committed to maintaining a level of contact with our Parish Councils. As such, please find attached a covering letter from the Wychavon Safer Neighbourhood Team Inspector and a copy of the Parish Council Contact Contract."

Chairman completed the form based on the three policing priorities of crimes listed that the village have had over the last 1-2 years as mentioned in the recent survey that was completed. Clerk finalised the form.

Jubilee Wood Gate

A resident asked if the gate into the track of Jubilee Wood could be looked at as it had dropped. The farm manager investigated and found that there was not any problem with how it was currently. It swings freely and latches without catching or having to be lifted. No further action.

Seasonal Workers

There was a message on the Eckington Facebook site regarding "farm workers at Birlingham bridges blocking footways and causing a 'nuisance' and a mention of cars". The farm was contacted.

A representative from Woodfield says that as part of the induction they instruct all their seasonal workers that they are not allowed to swim anywhere in the river and this is as soon as they arrive at the farm. Regarding cars, there are only have a handful of seasonal workers who own cars – the rest usually walk or cycle to wherever they want to go – except for Tesco when we have a bus 5 nights a week to take them on a rota basis.

It had already been previously noted by Revills that there were a lot of cars but the river edge was also packed with fishermen, so they would have been responsible for some of them. It was also noticed there was quite a lot of BBQ debris about.

As usual, they will give out the warnings of the dangers and follow up with notices round the site reminding everyone that swimming is not allowed

Extracts of interest

Birlingham **News 255 – 28 July 2021**

In this issue:

1. St James' Church Services – August
2. Cuppa & Chat Grand Reopening!
3. Road Closure – Berwick Lane
4. Parish Council Report
5. Planning Applications

2. Cuppa & Chat Grand Reopening!

The Cuppa & Chat Team writes:

If the situation continues to improve, we have every hope of re-starting Cuppa & Chat on Wednesday 1st September. There will be more details in the next newsletter.

3. Road Closure – Berwick Lane

Berwick Lane will be closed for 12 days from Monday 12th August for implementation of a drainage scheme to prevent flooding in the lane.

The works to Berwick Lane will involve installing a new drainage pipe in the middle of the road. This is to avoid issues where previously the tree roots have damaged and blocked the pipes.

The contractors will try and keep the works as 'tight' as possible and road-plate the open excavations outside their working times to allow access. Please be advised, as per the Closure Notice, that Berwick Lane will be shut.

4. Parish Council Report

Ian Yates writes:

Birlingham Parish Council held its meeting by videoconference at 7.00pm on Wednesday 21st July. Attendees at the meeting discussed the following:

Jubilee Wood tree planting. The Parish Council were made aware of the Queen's Green Canopy scheme which is a tree-planting initiative to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022. The Woodland Trust are a partner in the campaign and are making tree saplings available free of charge. This seemed a great opportunity to try and improve the Jubilee Wood which has suffered with several dead trees. Steve Morris from the Jubilee Committee has ordered 210 saplings for delivery in November and Rupert Keys our tree warden will advise and assist with the planting.

Millennium Bench update. Councillor Cook confirmed that work on restoring the bench was progressing well but more rotten wood than expected had been found. This has meant several new parts have had to be manufactured. However, the carpenter has agreed to continue the restoration in his free time at no additional cost, which is very generous of him. It is hoped it can be completed in August for installation on the village green in the autumn.

Full Fibre Broadband (Fibre to the Premise – FTTP). As previously reported, the Parish Council has been investigating the Government's Gigabit Voucher Scheme that can be used to fund the provision of

Full Fibre Broadband to homes as part of a community project. The benefit is higher speeds (up to 1Gb/s) and a more reliable service. An explanatory leaflet has been circulated with the Bystander to all properties, encouraging residents to sign up for the scheme. There is no cost as the installation should be funded through the vouchers. The response has been very encouraging with more than a third of the village already signed up. If you have not done so already and would like to be included in the scheme, please send your name and contact details to birlinghamgigabit@gmail.com. The cut-off date for this is the end of August.

War memorial – Frederick Quarrell. You may recall that during some research into the First World War it was discovered that Frederick Quarrell, a villager who died during the war, did not have his name included on the Birlingham war memorial. The Parish Council therefore decided to apply for funding to pay for his name to be added. This work was somewhat delayed due to COVID but the Parish Clerk, June Hiden, will now progress a formal application to the local authority as the war memorial has listed status. She has also identified a stonemason who can add the inscription.

War memorial – flowers. Councillor Cook proposed that it would be attractive to plant some flowers by the war memorial, as other villages have done. The flowers would be in troughs. If anyone has an objection to this idea then please contact the Parish Clerk, June Hiden. If approved, work would start during the planting season next year.

Telephone kiosk – restoration. The telephone box has been in a sad state for some time. It is no longer owned by BT and was adopted by the Parish Council a few years back and has been used by the Flower & Produce Show in the past. It is much loved by residents as an icon from the pre-mobile phone age. Many ideas for its future use have been proposed (someone has even suggested putting an electric car charging point in it) but none have been practicable. So the Jubilee Committee are putting together a proposal to restore the box. They are looking for volunteers to help with this and if you are interested please contact the Clerk, June Hiden. If volunteer labour can be found then the cost of materials (special paint, glass panels etc.) will be met from Jubilee funding and from the Parish Council Community Fund.

SmartWater – 7 kits left. Councillor Aston has just seven SmartWater kits left. These are available free of charge to any new or existing resident who would like one. Contact Paula Aston at paston1976@gmail.com.

Berwick Lane – Road closure for drainage Work. There has been a persistent water leak at the top of Berwick Lane near Lower End Farm. This has caused some flooding and is a problem in winter when it freezes. Despite drains being jetted several times it has not fixed the problem. Parish Clerk, June Hiden, has been working with the Highways Project Team and has been informed that Berwick Lane will now be closed from Monday 16th August for at least 12 days while a new drain is installed. Residents affected are aware of the closure and landowners and fishermen will also be informed. Work will also need to be co-ordinated with the Environment Agency, who have been working at the weir at Nafford Lock.

Resurfacing work at Lower End. The patching of Broadway Road at Lower End around to Church Street and the resurfacing work have now been completed. The Parish Council thanked Worcestershire County Councillor Adrian Hardman for his support in getting this work done.

Full minutes of the Parish Council meeting will be posted on the village website shortly.

5. Planning Applications

The following applications have been determined by Wychavon District Council:

3 Court Cottages, Upper End: Opening up of existing internal and external doorways and installation of new roof lights (Case No. 21/00833; Listed Building Consent Case No. 21/00834). Approved. Full details and conditions can be viewed on the Wychavon DC website.

Field Cottage: Two storey rear extension, single storey side extensions and Air Source Heat Pump (Case No. 21/01048). Approved. Full details and conditions can be viewed on the Wychavon DC website.

Birlingham **News 256 – 11 August 2021**

It's just over three weeks to the Flower & Produce Show, so time to start thinking about your entries for the 40th anniversary event.

In this issue:

1. John Shepherd Memorial Cricket Match, Friday 13th August
2. Birlingham Flower & Produce Show, Saturday 4th September
3. Cricket Club Village Celebration, Saturday 4th September
4. Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter – August 2021
5. Bystander Archives on the Village Website

4. Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter – August 2021

The August edition of the Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter, 'Our News', is available at www.birlingham.org/docs/nhw_2021_aug.pdf.