Birlingham Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held on Monday 17 January 2022

In Birlingham Village Hall

Councillors:

Councillor Aston, Byrne, Cook, Griffin, Luff, Porter and Yates.

Present:

Footpath Warden, Bruce Hayward, resident and June Hiden (Clerk).

Welcome – The Chairman thanked everyone for attending.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were tendered by District Councillor Ron Davis who is still convalescing.

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 Cook regarding planning, Item 5.

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 15 November 2021, a copy of which has been circulated to all Councillors, was agreed as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

Corrections were made to Councillor Cook's name removing the letter 'e'.

The owner of Orchard View, Paul Burton, had been in touch. A correction to the name of the property was made. It is Orchard View and not Orchard House. The resident also asked for assistance with the website which was actioned.

Democratic Opening

The meeting was adjourned for public question time. Reference to Item 12.

4. Progress Reports

a) Footpath Warden:

The way marker by Bell Barn needs replacing with a shorter version. It is currently lying on the ground.

The way marker near Maryworth Barn/Orchard Hill has been reported to Worcestershire County Council, as it is on the highway and therefore the Footpath Warden is unable to replace it. The Footpath Warden has asked for a replacement.

b) Tree Warden:

No report. The Tree Warden has assisted in co-ordinating saplings in Jubilee Wood. Item 9.

c) District Councillor:

i. Due to my recent health problem I have decided (on doctors' advice) to resign from the Executive Board after having served thereon for 7 years.
ii. I have recommended that we do not increase the Council Tax this year again from Wychavon's perspective, which will require approval by the full Council next month - if approved it will be the fourth year in a row.
iii. I would draw your attention to the Wychavon Legacy Grant Scheme which you may wish to take advantage of.
iv. The Boundary Commission Review Consultation period is to open for Parishes to comment on.

My best wishes to all Councillors for the new year.

Councillor Davis confirmed that he will not finish his role as District Councillor until April 2023 when the Elections will take place.

All Councillors wished District Councillor Davis a continued recovery and thanks for his ongoing assistance.

b) County Councillor: none.

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

5. Planning

a) Planning applications pending:- none

b) Applications granted:

i. 21/01423/FUL and Associated Ref: 21/01894/LB - St James Church, Rectory Lane

(Full planning application and listed building consent)

Installation of water supply to new standpipe, and construction of disabled access ramp

Parish Council comment
"*The Parish Council support the application (s).*"

Decision - 3 December 2021

Planning Application – approved
Listed Building – consent

ii. Appeal is lodged

NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING APPEAL PLANNING INSPECTORATE
REF:- APP/H1840/D/21/3288819

Site at: Old School House, The Avenue WR10 3AB

Appeal Start Date: 12 January 2022

Appellant(s) Name: Mr Nicholas Green

Proposal: Demolition of existing rear single storey extension and replacement with two storey new rear extension. Refurbishment of the building envelope including roof finishes and stone windows. Internal refurbishment and alteration works (Variation of condition 5 Ref. 17/01047/HP)

Written representation appeal procedural method

The Councillors discussed the Appeal however there is no opportunity under an appeal procedure to make additional representations. All Councillors agreed to stand by their existing recommendations, which will be published as part of the inspectors decision.

For reference the previous comments sent to Wychavon District Council were:

> *"As a Parish council, we note that the issue of privacy has need raised by an adjoining property. We note that the current window can be opened at preset, so the issue of privacy could be said to be already compromised regardless of whether there is obscured or plane glass. Also, section 5 of the application infers that the window does not contravene planning regs. We could ask the allocated planning office to consider the original application and this one with regard to the above aspects".*

c) Enforcement – Rose Cottage outbuilding was noted and an Officer from Wychavon District Council has been to site.

6. Financial Matters

a) The Accounts for 2021/2022

i. Bank balance (current) is £9,830.57 as at 22 December 2021. Business saving balance is £7,790.66 as at 9 December 2021.

ii. Receipts – none.

iii. Payments: –

i. £150.00 – PAYE – (October, November, December) 632
ii. £200.00 – New Homes Bonus Booklet payable to Jubilee Committee on behalf of the Memories Group 633
iii. £90.00 – Birlingham Village Hall (as September for defibrillator) 628
iv. £20.00 – Birlingham Village Hall (hire of hall for meeting 15 November 2021)
v. £20.00 – Birlingham Village Hall (hire in January 2022) 634
vi. £105.00 – Lengthsman September 2021 635
vii. £157.50 - Lengthsman October 2021 636

viii. £200.00 - There is a duplicated error. 637
Cheques 633 (banked 18 November 2021) and 637 (banked 22 December 2021). Jubilee Committee have actioned a transfer of £200.00 to rectify the mistake and correct this.
ix. £250.00 - Cuppa & Chat – previously agreed but not sent to Group. 642
The amount was on hold on behalf of Cuppa & Chat until such time a 'party/social gathering' could be held again. A request has now been received from the group for the amount to be paid to the Hon Treasurer, Val Gilmore.

x. £500.00 – Clarian still pending. Councillor Cook has now received the outstanding paperwork/ invoice and will forward to Clerk for payment.

b) Payments for consideration –

i. £210.00 – Lengthsman November 2021
No claim/worksheet for December 2021.
There remains £452.50 of the WCC budget left to use.
ii. £104.26 – Clerk's expenses (October, November, December)
iii. £600.00 – Clerk's pay (October, November, December)
iv. £40.00 - estimate – ICO

c) Budget setting 2022/2023

Budget application has been returned as £7,235.00, including grant of £179.00. Requirement was due by 26 January 2022. This has been acknowledged and will result in an increase on a Band D property of £41.47 as per calculations from WDC.

Councillor Griffin explained the % difference in tax base.

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

The Parish Council had requested and received a quote from Openreach to connect the 66 houses that had signed up for the Gigabit Voucher Scheme. However, Openreach excluded some properties from the list without explanation and so in November the Parish Council asked Openreach to look at the quote again. After much chasing, an email was received stating that the schemes are now on hold due to an unprecedented volume of requests and that Openreach are reviewing them in line with network build capacity.

Two things have changed since the initial request. 1) the government has committed funding for the general rollout of Fibre to the Premises (FTTP) in the UK and 2) Worcestershire County Council has proposed a mid-March 2022 cut-off date for the Gigabit Voucher Schemes before exclusion. What this means is that it is unlikely that Openreach will be able to meet the mid-March cut-off due to the delays while they review network build capacity.

So, the Parish Council is now waiting to hear from Airband to see if they have the capacity to include Birlingham in their build proposal for Eckington and Bredon. If not, then it is likely that Birlingham will have to wait to be connected as part of the general Government rollout of FTTP.

8. Dog/Litter Bins

As previously reported, the Parish Council has included funding for three additional bins in its 2022/23 precept. Wychavon District Council will be responsible for emptying the bins and the Parish Council are now waiting for them to approve the proposed locations, which are the junction of Broadway/Lower End with Grange Road (post box), top of Sherpool Lane (junction of Broadway) and the junction of Shorthill with Church Street as these are areas popular with dog walkers.

The Clerk has arranged for a site meeting with Wychavon District Council for 24 January 2022 to propose the 3 suggested sites and to advise them that if approved the bins will be required after April 2022.

9. Jubilee Wood Tree Planting

Rupert Key reported:

"In snowy conditions on 27th November the 210 saplings ordered for the Jubilee Wood as part of the Queen's Green Canopy scheme were planted by some 15 volunteers".

Steve Morris, Jubilee Committee

"The replanting of the Jubilee Wood went ahead on Saturday 27 November 2021 at 9.00am, despite snow earlier in the morning.

Previously, Redstar Growers had mown some of the empty areas (without being asked). They had also partly filled the holes in the track near the gate.

Of the 27 people who volunteered to help, 15 turned up on the day despite the short notice. The other 12 people have also agreed to help with future maintenance of the trees.

Rupert Keys gave planting instructions to the volunteers and dug the holes with his earth auger machine. The planting was completed in an hour. In the end, all 210 saplings were planted.

Ian Yates had provided some horse manure and this was spread as mulch around the saplings.

Of the original 420 saplings from nine years ago, about 100 have survived. There are also about 60 self-seeded trees, mostly oaks, some ash and quite a few hawthorn, as well as the original 20 larger trees planted when the track was first installed (180 trees in all). If all the 210 new saplings survive, they will need to be thinned at some point.

The Jubilee Committee would like to thank all those who helped on the day or have volunteered to help with future maintenance".

There was some discussion on the grass verge in The Avenue and the visit of the Romany gypsies recently.

If saplings were planted in the verge, it would be difficult for the hedge to be cut.

The Parish Council thanked Rupert Keys for managing the planting, the use of his mini digger and the volunteers for braving the wintry conditions and Steve Morris for co-ordinating the project.

Chairman will put a message in the Birlingham News.

10. Millennium Bench

The Councillors discussed the progress of the bench. The carpenter needs another 20-30 hours of work to complete the restoration, which has been much more extensive than originally thought. It is hoped it will be ready to install on the village green by the end of February. We are grateful to Councillor Cook who continues to progress the work and who has visited the unit where the bench is being restored.

Councillor Cook and Rupert Keys will visit the unit to measure the bench to prepare the village green so that it can be brought back from the workshop.

Councillors agreed there must be a plaque put on the bench to recognise the carpenter's work and regular maintenance in the future.

Councillor Cook agreed to monitor the Millennium bench in the future for any work needed.

11. Speed Advisories

Discussion took place on the additional roundels, white hazards, the defective roundels and the disappearing red 30mph repainting in Upper End and New Barn Road.

County Councillor Adrian Hardman kindly agreed to fund the installation of 30mph repeater roundels at each end of the narrow section of Upper End, near Court Barn. This work has now been carried out, but it was noted that one of the roundels was already wearing away near the edge of the road. It was hoped that the existing 30/40mph roundels located near the entrance to Birlingham Nurseries would also be re-marked at the same time, but this did not happen. The Parish Council will speak to Councillor Hardman to see if this work can be completed.

Clerk to chase up.

12. Village Footpaths

The Parish Council has received a number of comments from residents regarding the new permissive footpaths and No Public Access signs that went up around the village just before Christmas without warning. The Parish Council contacted landowners and tenants with the main concern regarding the 'permissive' signage. As a result, the new restrictions on Sherpool Lane to the John Bennett memorial pond and on Ash Plantation to the wetlands hide were removed. However, other restrictions (Swans Neck, Birlingham House/Old Rectory and banks of the river near Bakers Bridge) remain in place. The Parish Council understand the landowners right to close footpaths. However, it was agreed that the Parish Council would request a further meeting with landowners to discuss the paths, the restrictions and better understand the reasons so these can be communicated to residents.

Chairman, Councillors Byrne and Luff to set up a meeting/conversation.

See below a summary of comments from one resident who attended the Parish Council meeting.

13. SmartWater Signage

All the SmartWater kits have now been allocated and as a result the Parish Council have received five SmartWater signs that have been erected around the parish, including the A4104 and Eckington Road, to discourage thefts. There are 20 kits remaining which can be given to new residents.

County Councillor Hardman was thanked for his contribution to the scheme.

The Parish Council thanked Councillor Paula Aston for all her effort in managing this project.

14. Telephone Kiosk

The telephone kiosk remains an ongoing project.

Steve Morris, on behalf of the Jubilee Committee has said that he has received a number of offers of help, both physical and financial. Currently the Committee are still investigating costs but hope to be able to start repainting and replace some glass when the weather improves.

Councillor Cook will investigate the suggested specialist glass company based in Malvern and contact the Avoncroft museum.

15. Roads and Flooding

Berwick Lane

Flooding / Severn Trent Water

As previously reported, despite the Highways Project Team installing a new drain in Berwick Lane, the work has not fixed the leak. Severn Trent Water were asked to revisit the problem

and it has now been established that the old pipework is causing the issue as it has not been correctly sealed off. Water testing has taken place but no results have been sent to the Clerk.

Clerk is progress-chasing for a solution to the problem.

Gate

The Environment Agency has completed the works on the weir and has co-ordinated with the landowner to put in a new gate with disabled access near Berwick Brook bridge.

Grange Lane - Sinkage of highway

The collapsed surface on Grange Road outside Avonside Cottage has now been actioned and the road resurfaced.

Upper End

There is a cracking in the tarmac in the location near Parsons Pleck. To be monitored.

16. War Memorial – inscription / New Homes Bonus

Listed Building Consent for the missing inscription on the war memorial has now been received from Wychavon District Council. A stonemason has been appointed to do the work and has given his quote. The Clerk has asked the stonemason when the work can commence. He has advised he is waiting for the fairer weather.

17. Litter Pick

Councillors were to discuss dates for the litter pick. However, Councillors Aston and Cook advised on the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme and candidates taking part in this challenge with litter picking in the village. One resident and a friend are taking part in the silver award and have contacted Councillor Aston as they did last year. Councillor Cook's daughter is also wishing to litter pick as part of her award. The children will be advised on which parts of the village they should do so there is no overlap.

Clerk to provide litter picker, Hi-Viz jacket and bags to Councillor Cooks daughter.

Councillor Aston to monitor.

18. Councillors' reports and items for next agenda

Boundary Commission Review

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England has published their initial proposals regarding the new electoral ward arrangements for Wychavon. The Local Government Boundary Commission wants to hear what residents and local organisations think about the proposals. A 10-week consultation on the proposals will run until 21 March 2022. The Commission is reviewing Wychavon to make sure councillors will represent about the same number of electors, and that ward arrangements will help the council work effectively. Details can be seen at the Local Government Boundary Commission for England Consultation Portal (https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk/have-your-say/24728). There are no proposed changes to Birlingham Parish boundaries but it is proposed that the boundaries to Eckington Ward (of which Birlingham is part) now include Great Comberton.

Entrance on Gravelly Hill

It has been noticed that there is fly tipping at Gravelly Hill. Clerk to report.

19. Closure and date of next ordinary meeting - with nothing further to discuss the meeting closed at 8.35pm and the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance.

The next Parish Council Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 16 March 2022 at 7.00pm.

The meeting will be held in Birlingham Village Hall. Clerk to book hall.

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

Date: ……..……..……..……

Appendix 1 – Clerk's Report (commencing with Lengthsman report)

Lengthsman report for Upper End - Depression by Hills Cottage has been reported to Highways.

Lower End

Berwick Lane

Severn Trent Water

Previously reported as 2005363876 19 September and again 15 November – Waste crew out within next 24 hours – reference 2005432519

November - Clerk and resident meet clear water crew from STW on site.

17 November from resident:

> "No dye came out at all yesterday. I did have another lady turn up from the freshwater team again who took samples for testing, both from the house and road although I did say that it had been done already… Anyway, she agreed that it looks like surface water from a waste pipe although where the pipe is… nobody knows?

Clerk chased and told waiting test results

5 December from resident

> *"Got a note on my door on Friday to say samples had been taken again! Thought it was odd they'd been again!"*

Resident informs Clerk that results have gone missing and awaiting others.

Grange Lane

Worcestershire County Council – chasing – Reference 1160796

Clerk states, "This sinkage (black hole) has been reported several times and is a highway issue. Shortly the road will collapse and is immediately by the property. This fault report has attached photos".

24 November 2021 – Highway's reply "We will investigate all reported issues within 28 working days."

17 December 2021

Highways "Thank you for your enquiry, an engineer will be sent to site to assess the damage to the carriageway."

10 January 2022

The highway is filled.

11 January 2022

The road is closed (Road Closure Notice comes at the end of the day) and works are taking place.

Clerk speaks to the person in charge to be told that the 'fill' yesterday wasn't sufficient and so the road is planed and resurfaced across the entire width.

Lengthsman has also spoken to the gang and been told that they have filled from the clay level up.

Petition for Hybrid meetings

10 January from Director of Legal and Governance

"As many of you may be aware the LGA have been campaigning for the government to allow for the option of virtual/ hybrid meetings.

A new petition has been launched to help with the campaign.

https://www.change.org/p/uk-government-and-parliament-for-councils-in-england-to-have-the-choice-to-meet-remotely?recruiter=1244721622&utm_source=share_petition&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=share_email_responsive&recruited_by_id=d59d8ff0-6e1e-11ec-8844-2bee7e0ba126

You/ your parish council may wish to follow the link and add your own thoughts".

Cuppa & Chat grant from Councillor Hardman

29 November on behalf of Cuppa & Chat (Sue Hermon)

"Dear Councillor Hardman

Little did we think it would be a further eighteen months before we would be holding a Christmas Cuppa & Chat! We have delivered flyers to all the properties in the village to let everyone know that a Festive Cuppa & Chat will be held this Wednesday 1st December from 3-4.30 in Birlingham Village Hall. You are most welcome to come along and see how some of your kind donation is being spent.

We look forward to seeing you if your commitments allow".

Councillor Hardman declines invitation due to Full Council Meeting and the Eckington Road closure. Clerk attends.

Parks and Management Plans 2022 – Consultation

7 January – from Parks and Greenspace Officer, Wychavon District Council

"Please find below two links to the management plans for Lido Park/St Peters Fields (Droitwich Spa) and Workman & Waterside Gardens (Evesham).

Lido Park - https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/RV6REQ/

Workman Gardens - https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/2TOVST/

As part of the Green Flag Award application process, we are expected to send out our management plans for review/consultation when they have been re-written.

Please provide any feedback via the survey form by 7th February 2022.

Thank you for taking the time to look through these documents.

Village Footpaths - Comments from one resident who attended the Parish Council meeting

The resident attended the meeting and was invited to comment about footpaths in the village.

The resident said that, as everyone knew, "permissive" path signs and "no entry" signs had been put up throughout the Birlingham Farm just before Christmas with no advance warning. As a result of Ian Yates speaking with the landowner, 2 no entry signs had been changed to permissive signs along by John Bennett's memorial lake and by the wetlands, but others remained. The resident said that he and his wife, and many others, had used all these paths for over 26 years since he first rented a house in Birlingham in 1995 and then bought current house in 1996. It had been clear at that time that the paths had been in wide use for a long time. There had never been any restrictive signs before and he had always walked his dogs regularly (more or less daily) without let or hindrance.

He took the view that he had acquired a personal right by prescription and did not wish to acknowledge in any way the farm's right to convert the paths to permissive status because of the risk that the permission could at any time be withdrawn. He proposed to continue walking the paths as before. Of most practical importance was the stretch of about 200 metres or so along the riverbank going west towards Baker's Bridge. There are 2 paths there, a lower one which was now marked "permissive" and a higher one marked "no entry". Both paths had been regularly used but the bottom path often flooded and the top path was therefore required. That top path, although by the side of a crop field, is a wide path used for decades by fishermen to drive along and park cars so walking there does not impinge on the crops.

The resident stressed that, although he was a retired lawyer he did not have any specific expertise on footpaths/rights of way and in no way sought to give any advice on the matter, but his preliminary view was that, in addition to the personal right of way that he claimed, he suspected that a general right of way may also have arisen both at common law by usage and more particularly by reference to S31 of the Highways Act 1980. Under that Act landowners could protect themselves by registering a plan at the local highway authority (Worcester County Council) confirming that they did not intend to allow a right of way to be created. The resident had had a cursory look at the Council register and could not see that any protection had been registered (save for on some land to the east of Eckington Road). He had not yet studied it properly. In the absence of any registration, the Act provided a presumption that a right of way would arise unless otherwise protected. No other steps appear to have been taken by the farm to prevent such a right arising.

Neither the resident, nor anyone else at the meeting knew why the farm had now suddenly put up these signs although the resident thought it may be that farmers had been given advice over the last year or so to do this just so as to avoid any rights of way being created. That however, in his view could not undo a right that had already arisen, but it was important not to acknowledge the farm's right to restrict the ways. There may be other reasons why the farm has acted in this way, such as protecting crops generally or complying with wholesalers or government requirements. It would be helpful to know the reason. The resident stressed that he had always had a good relationship with the farm and did not wish to damage that, but that walking the dogs was such an important part of living in the village that he could not let it stand without recording the fact that he had exercised his right to walk with his dogs for 26 years or thereabouts. He intended to continue to respect the farm's legitimate need to protect crops.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would arrange to speak with a representative of the farm to find out some details.

Extracts of interest

Birlingham **News 264 – 24 November**

This weekend sees the first of the Platinum Jubilee activities and then next week we are into the start of the festive season with the December Cuppa & Chat.

In this issue:

1. Jubilee Tree Planting, Saturday 27th November
2. Cuppa & Chat, Wednesday 1st December
3. St James' Church Services – December
4. Eckington Road Closure
5. Bags for Maggs
6. Opening the Church
7. Parish Council Report
8. Planning Applications

Jubilee Tree Planting, Saturday 27 November

Steve Morris writes:

The 210 saplings have now all been received from the Woodland Trust and we are planning to plant them this Saturday, 27th November.

If you have previously volunteered to help with the planting, you should have received an email with the details. If you have not heard from us, please let us know!

Not all our original volunteers are able to make this Saturday, so if you would like to help and can spare an hour or so this weekend, or if you are willing to be involved in the future maintenance of the Jubilee Wood, the Jubilee Committee would be pleased to hear from you. Please email us at news@birlingham.org.

Eckington Road Closure

The road to Eckington is still closed. We understand that work to reinstate the road is taking longer than expected and Pershore Road, next to the Recreation Ground, will be closed until at least the end of next week (3rd December).

Planning Applications

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

Birlingham War Memorial: Addition of name to Northern elevation of war memorial (Case No. 21/02329/LB). **Approved**. Full details and conditions can be viewed on the Wychavon DC website.

Birlingham **News 265 – 8 December**

Here is your round-up of this year's Christmas information.

In this issue:

1. Christmas at St James'
2. Christmas Opening at the Swan Inn
3. Christmas Bin Collections
4. Bags for Maggs
5. Opening the Church
6. Bystander Archives on the Village Website
7. Planning Applications

Planning Applications

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

St James' Church: Installation of water supply to new standpipe, and construction of disabled access ramp (Planning Application Case No. 21/01423; Listed Building Consent Case No. 21/01894). **Approved**. Full details and conditions can be viewed on the Wychavon DC website.

Birlingham **News 266 – 22 December**

From the Birlingham News team, we wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Please note that we are not planning to distribute a Birlingham News next week (fifth Wednesday of the month).

In this issue:

1. St James' Church Services
2. Cuppa & Chat
3. Bulb Teas
4. Birlingham Independent Women

Cuppa & Chat

Sue Hermon writes:

A very festive Cuppa & Chat was held in Birlingham Village Hall on 1st December. The Hall Committee had organised a team of helpers to decorate the hall, so it was a lovely surprise to see a Christmas tree, garlands, and baubles when we opened the door! It was great that so many came along and good to see both those new to the village and some who have been here over fifty years! The Christmas raffle was well supported and means that we will be able to send a sizeable donation to the Midlands Air Ambulance Charity.

At the time of writing the situation is still uncertain concerning the spread of the virus. After due consideration, the Cuppa & Chat team has decided it would be sensible to cancel January's get together. We will start up again as soon as possible.

In the meantime, we wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Healthy, Happy and Hopeful New Year.

Birlingham **News 267 – 13 January**

The first social event of the year, the Burns Night Supper, takes place in two weeks' time – details below.

In this issue:

1. Parish Council Meeting, Monday 17th January
2. Burns Night Supper, Saturday 29th January
3. Bystander Archives on the Village Website

Parish Council Meeting, Monday 17th January

The next meeting of Birlingham Parish Council takes place on **Monday** 17th January 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.