Birlingham News online

Published on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month

No. 298/9 Wednesday 8th March 2023

Editorial

These days we expect to be consulted on everything, whether it is a plan to build houses, a move by the dentist to new premises or a change of name for our favourite breakfast cereal (the one most likely to upset us!) So it comes as a huge shock when something happens unannounced, particularly if it is irreversible – as was the case with the clearance of Swan's Neck.

What is a 'consultation'? According to the *Oxford English Dictionary*, it is 'the action or process of formally consulting or discussing'. For most people, consultation means an authority *actively* seeking views by publishing plans in an accessible place.

As one of our correspondents points out, when Wychavon District Council receives a planning application it publishes the plans on its website and notifies nearby neighbours and the Parish Council. Applications are also included in *Birlingham News*. This ensures that everyone has the opportunity to make their views known directly to the Parish Council or to Wychavon.

Unfortunately, the Forestry Commission has a different view of the consultation process. Applications are lodged on a national website for a period of 28 days – and that is it. The applications are not easy to find, even if you know they are there (as our letter writer points out, having spent a long time on the search).

Hence, the upset that was felt by many when the beautiful and tranquil wild area at Swan's Neck was cut down, apparently without warning. The landowner has made a case for the felling and cannot be blamed for thinking that the Forestry Commission would at the very least have notified the Parish Council of the application. Had that happened, there could have been a sensible debate and at least the community would have been prepared.

It is hard to understand how the Forestry Commission sees this is an acceptable way to consult. Consultation, it seems, is in the eye of the beholder.

Pat Taylor

We are very sorry to announce that Pat Taylor died on Thursday 2nd March.

Pat and Geoff have lived in Orchard House, Church Street since 1986. Among many contributions to village life, Pat was an editor of the *Birlingham Bystander* for nearly 30 years from 1988 to 2016. She will be greatly missed.

Our thoughts are with Geoff and the family.

Birlingham IW

Thursday 16th March *by Caryl Mills*



The next meeting is on Thursday 16th March at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Our speaker this month is Jodie Bond of The Letter Loft who is going to talk and demonstrate making an Easter/Spring Wreath. She will also tell us about growing and preparing the dried flowers she uses in her wreaths.

Trial of Floodlighting at St James'

by Peter Luff

The Friends of St James' have funded and overseen the installation of replacement floodlighting at the church, and it is now in its trial phase. While the light produced is in keeping with the rural setting and gentle but effective, adjustments need to be made to reduce light-spill. However, we are already benefiting from the greatly improved efficiency of the single LED unit compared to the two old units it replaces and from the colour temperature of its light, which does not interfere with bat populations.



Trial of floodlighting, 7th March (Photo: Peter Luff)

Coronation Celebrations Second Open Meeting

Monday 20th March

by Steve Morris

The first meeting to discuss the Coronation celebrations was held on Monday 27th February. The meeting was well attended, with plenty of new ideas for the occasion. Details of the plans and suggestions so far considered are included opposite.

The next meeting will be held on Monday 20th March in the Village Hall, to which everyone in the village is invited. A glass of wine or a soft drink, plus a few nibbles, will be available. This is an opportunity for you to put forward your ideas on how you would like us to celebrate the Coronation as a community.

The meeting will begin at 7.30pm and the aim will be to complete it within an hour. Refreshments will be available from 7.15pm.

Please come along if you would like to be involved in some way, no matter how small, or have some suggestions for Coronation activities. If you are unable to make that date but would like to be kept informed, please let us know at news@birlingham.org.

Coronation Plans

Some of the plans provisionally agreed by the meeting include:

- Quiz on Saturday 6th May
- Picnic lunch/tea on Sunday 7th, if possible at the cricket ground
- Procession around the church behind the 'King' on horseback before lunch
- Activities and sports for children and adults after lunch
- Children's fancy dress
- Design a crown – competition for children; hat/tiara competition for all
- Memory box or similar for children's contributions
- Clearing around trees in Jubilee Wood by volunteers on Monday 8th as part of 'Big Help Out'
- Coronation-themed scarecrow/statue/public art in village gardens

The churchwarden, Adrianne Woodward, will also arrange a special church service on Sunday 7th and the tower captain, Chris Woodward, is organising the 'Ring for the King'.

Snowdrop Teas

by Caryl Mills

I have to thank all the wonderful people of Birlingham (and surrounds) who baked, served teas, erected and took down tables, and washed up hundreds of cups and saucers during the month of February. You all know who you are and it is thanks to your support that we are able to assist in the keeping of the fabric of the church in good order.

Due to the good weather we have had a record breaking result of £3,564.00 (including £80 from sale of jigsaw puzzles). Birlingham is an amazing community. Thank you.

Here is to 2024!



Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday 15th March

The next meeting of Birlingham Parish Council takes place on Wednesday 15th March at 7.00pm in Birlingham Village Hall. During the meeting there is an opportunity to express your views on local issues, so please go along.

The agenda for the meeting is available at:
http://www.birlingham.org/pc_info/pc_agenda_2023-03-15.pdf
and the draft minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting on 18th January can be viewed at:
http://www.birlingham.org/pc_info/pc_minutes_2023-01-18.pdf.

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Birlingham Bystander Spring Edition

The Spring Edition of the *Birlingham Bystander* is currently in preparation and will be published in April.

If you have any articles or photographs for this edition they should be submitted within the next week to bystander@birlingham.org. Please ensure that any photographs are emailed as high-resolution originals.

Pig Slurry

by John Sansome, Revills Farm Manager (28th February)

Within the next few days we will have a contractor spreading pig slurry on the wheat fields around Birlingham.

This is a fantastic organic fertiliser and reduces our reliance on imported artificial nitrogen. Unfortunately it may smell unpleasant during the spreading and for a little while afterwards but this will be temporary.

Red Star Growers Limited
Birlingham Pershore
Worcestershire WR10 3AG

T: 01386 750670 F: 01386 750531
E: rsg@redstargrowers.co.uk

STATEMENT OF FACTS REGARDING THE POLICE INCIDENT ON SATURDAY 4TH MARCH 2023

As you will be aware, there was a large police presence at Woodfield on Saturday 4th March.

We thought the residents of the village would appreciate a factual summary of the events and these are below. Any other comments or suggestions are purely speculation as far as we are concerned. The police made it quite clear that information they gave to us would be extremely limited so we are only able to report on what happened at the time.

A lorry arrived in our yard late afternoon which contained produce we had bought from the continent.

As soon as the lorry parked, several marked police cars and vans surrounded the vehicle. The police then broke the security seals on the back of the container and on opening the doors, 10 people were found to be inside.

All the individuals were checked by the paramedics who also attended the incident and it appeared they were in relatively good health.

The police then escorted the individuals to the waiting police vehicles and they were all driven away. The police did not give us information as to where they were taking these people nor if they were under any sort of police caution.

The driver of the lorry was interviewed on site by a police officer but was free to leave as it was clear he was not involved.

The police made it quite clear to us they did not intend to discuss any of the events with us any further and that as far as they were concerned, this was the end of the matter.

Poplar Plantation at Swan's Neck

by Michael Porter, Revills Farm

In response to the recent article written in the previous issue of *Birlingham News*, I would like to start by highlighting the history of the Swan's Neck poplar plantation.

Swan's Neck was planted with poplar trees in the late 1950s/early 60s along with another plantation next to Berwick Brook, near Nafford. Interestingly Eric Mitchell, who many of you will remember and lived at Field Cottage, was involved in planting them as part of a match making contract for Wilkinson Match Company (previously Bryant & May). At the time landowners were encouraged to plant poplars for veneer peeled log production for the UK match making industries. An important inducement to farmers was the assurance that all acceptable veneer quality timber would be purchased. By the 1960s, private planting reached a peak of about 400ha annually, but by then the consumption of matches was in steady decline. Wilkinson Match Co therefore decided to reverse the earlier intention to rely on home-grown poplar for the supply of match veneer. By this time some 4044ha had been privately planted. With the loss of the one market for which nearly all planting had been intended, interest in poplars plummeted and many of these plantations are therefore left standing today.

These trees are considered a liability rather than an asset as they have little or no commercial value but continue to get bigger and more likely to fall or collapse causing considerable safety concerns. The landowners of both plantations took the decision to apply for a felling licence together approximately ten years ago. This was granted and a logging company started work felling the timber for pallet making. Unfortunately they stopped work before they got to Swan's Neck because the pallet maker ceased trading.

Recently a new market for biomass (used for renewable energy) opened and a new felling licence was applied for. As part of the application process a 28-day period must elapse during a public consultation process. Approval for 'clear felling' was given on 03/08/2022. John Cook Forestry Services carried out the necessary work felling and removing the trees very efficiently and safely. Replanting will take place in the winter 2023/24, as it is now a bit late to re-plant this year. Species will include common alder, oak, downy birch, bird cherry and small leaved lime.

The landowners of Swan's Neck take their responsibility for public safety and the protection of the environment very seriously indeed. Had an accident been caused by a falling branch or tree, the reactions of the residents of Birlingham would be completely different! I would also like to point out that the landowners have been responsible for establishing many hundreds of trees in and around Birlingham and creating very valuable conservation areas. This commitment will continue.

Following a very positive meeting between residents' representatives and the farm, in which more effective communications have been established, I am very hopeful that this sort of misunderstanding will be avoided.

Case Ref: FL-015-1617-2021

Case Reference	FL-015-1617-2021
Property Name	Birlingham Land
Case Type	Felling
New Planting Programme	
Case Status	Approved
Organisation	Forestry Commission
Grid Reference	SO 9305 4245
Nearest Town	Birlingham
Local Authority	Wychavon District
Administrative Region	Bullers Hill
Broadleaf Area (ha)	0.25
Coniferous Area (ha)	0.00
Open Ground Area (ha)	0.00
Total Area (ha)	0.25
Public Register Start Date	17 May 2022
Public Register End Date	14 Jun 2022
Period	28

(Above) After much searching on the Forestry Commission website, we found details of the licence application and their decision. Further details, such as the application documents, the extent of felling requested or the nature of planned replanting, are not available on the website. The Parish Council was not consulted on the application.

A screenshot of the Forestry Commission website, including map, is shown on the next page

New Planting in Jubilee Wood

by John Sansome, Revills Farm Manager

We have planted up Jubilee Wood this morning [Monday 27th February] with 100 plants including common alder, silver birch, crab apple, wild cherry, hazel and hawthorn.

All of the wood has now been collected from the field as well.



Letters to the Editors

Below we print two further letters received from residents about Swan's Neck.

Poor Consultation by the Forestry Commission

For any fan of *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* the Forestry Commission's idea of public consultation is very much like the bureaucratic Vogons who advertise the destruction of planet Earth on an obscure location on their home planet and then profess surprise when no one on Earth had read it – and go ahead with the demolition.

So it is with the Commission. While the District Council is obliged to notify the Parish Council and others of a planning application, no such duty rests on the Forestry Commission. You really have to know a felling application has been made to find it.

The Forestry Commission website shows details of the decision in June 2022 [see the screenshots on the previous page and below]; to be fair the map is quite good, but the level of detail in the decision notice is inadequate, to put it kindly. Who are Birlingham Land? And where is Bullers Hill? And how many trees of what specific species are being felled? (0.25 hectares is not a very helpful answer.) And crucially, why is permission to fell being sought in the first place?

If the Commission had been obliged to notify the Parish Council, all these questions could have been addressed before felling took place and a lot of anger moderated or even avoided. I think it is reasonable for an applicant to imagine the Commission would behave as a planning authority and notify statutory consultees like parish councils. But they don't.

Peter Luff

A Holy Place

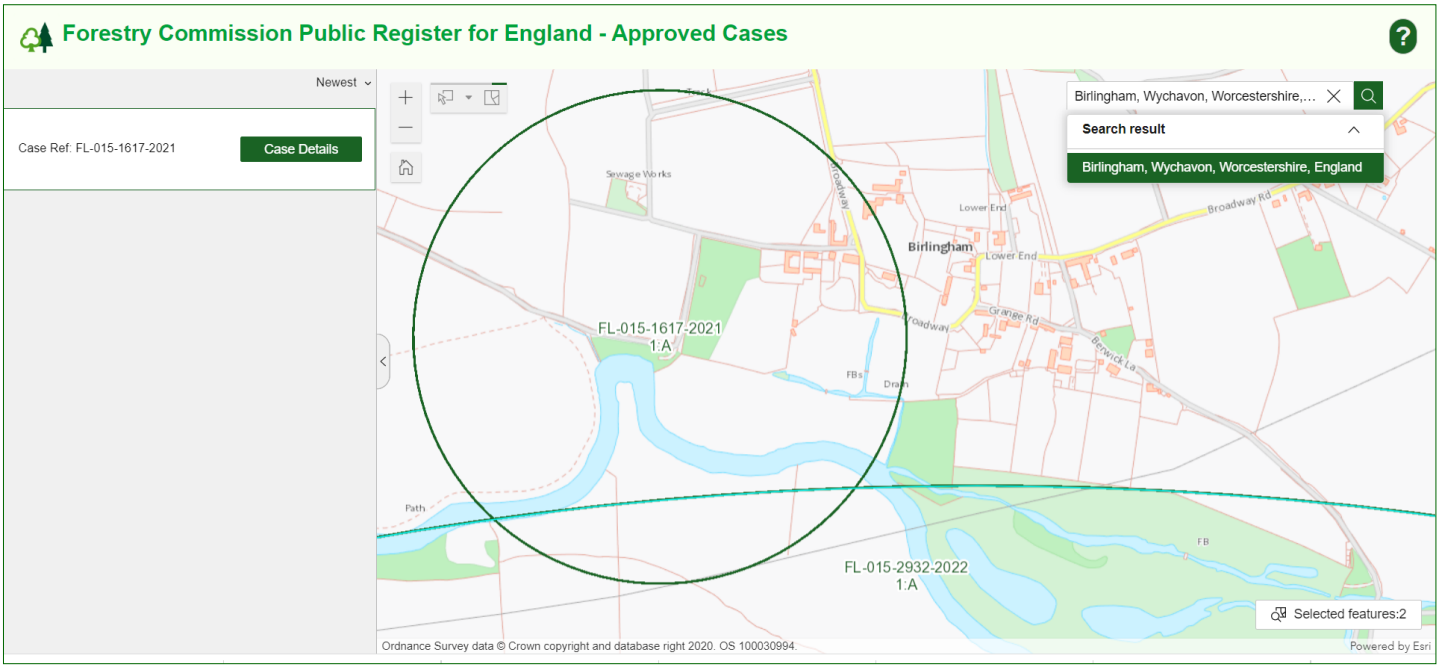
Swan's Neck is for me a 'holy place': the spiritual heart of God's local community – embracing people, animals, the river, the landscape, the trees, the vegetation, every created thing in this place. Finding it years ago made me feel at home.

Whatever the reasons, it has now been desecrated. Going there left me depressed and then angry. I am now reluctant to go there.

But I know that I must. I need to share the sense of desecration that the place, the river, the trees, the vegetation and wildlife feels.

Nature has an amazing capacity to heal itself. I must now lend my prayer to that healing in whatever way seems appropriate

Henry Morgan



The application as it appears on the Forestry Commission website. The only way to find the application is to do a search for 'Birlingham'. There is no option to search by Case Reference

Extract from

The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy

'*People of Earth, your attention please,*' a voice said. '*This is Prostetnic Vogon Jeltz of the Galactic Hyperspace Planning Council. As you will no doubt be aware, the plans for the development of the outlying regions of the Galaxy require the building of a hyperspatial express route through your star system, and regrettably your planet is one of those scheduled for demolition. The process will take slightly less than two of our Earth minutes. Thank you.*' . . .

'*There's no point in acting all surprised about it. All the planning charts and demolition orders have been on display in your local planning department in Alpha Centauri for fifty of your earth years, so you've had plenty of time to lodge any formal complaint and it's far too late to start making a fuss about it now.*' . . .

'*What do you mean you've never been to Alpha Centauri? For Heaven's sake, mankind, it's only four light-years away, you know. I'm sorry, but if you can't be bothered to take an interest in local affairs that's your own lookout.*'

'*Energize the demolition beams.*'

'*I don't know,*' said the voice on the PA, '*apathetic bloody planet, I've no sympathy at all.*'

Travelling Music Box Bus

by Jacqui Dance, Project Manager – The Music Box

My name is Jacqui Dance and I project manage the Music Box, a small bus which goes out into the community to inspire young people and their families to take part in musical activities. As a parish councillor of Norton and Lenchwick, I can see how the bus might be a valuable addition to any events you are holding in 2023, or a good way to support the young people in your parish.

Equipped with vocal booth, mixing desk, digital equipment, traditional instruments, recording software and DJ decks, the Music Box provides a new and different opportunity for young people to develop their music technology and digital skills, without leaving the village.

If you feel you have some funding available to support your community and feel The Music Box would work in the parish, please consider the hire costs below.

⇒ Half day hire – 4 hours total with set up – 3 hours music experience: £495

⇒ Full day hire – 6–7 hours music experience: £705

How to book

You can enquire about or book the bus by contacting Severn Arts Music Box Project Manager, Jacqui Dance via email: jdance@severnarts.org.uk or call me on 07976 608574.



Testimonial

"I learnt more there in an hour than in school for months! I enjoyed learning how to play some chords on the guitar in two minutes which has inspired me to look into guitar lessons. I liked messing around on the instruments in the bus and creating new sounds easily, never used any of the equipment before it was really cool. My friends said they would like the music bus to go to our school to give them a lesson or visit the bus again if at an event."

Sophie Allington – Year 8.



Friends of St James' Church AGM

Charity Registration Number 1094752 **Monday 27th March**

The Annual General Meeting of the Trust will be held on Monday 27th March in St James' Church at 6.00pm. All are welcome to attend. Light refreshments will be served.

The agenda for the meeting, accounts for 2022 and reports from the Chair, Treasurer and Trustees are included on this and the following page.

FRIENDS OF ST JAMES'S CHURCH BIRLINGHAM

Charity Registration number 1094752

The Annual General Meeting of the Trust will be held on Monday 27th March 2023 in St James's Church at 6.00pm

AGENDA

Welcome and apologies

1. To approve the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 26th April 2022.
2. To receive the Chair's Report for the year ended 31st December 2022.
3. To receive and approve the Accounts and Treasurer's Report for the year ended 31st December 2022.
4. To elect Trustees.
5. To elect a President,Chair, Treasurer and Secretary.
6. To appoint an Independent Examiner for the year ended 31st December 2023.
7. Any Other Business.

Receipts and Payments Account
Year ending 31 December

	2021	2022
Opening balance as at 1st January		
Lloyds Bank	38,239.56	34,548.74
CCLA	4,306.88	4,307.38
Scottish Widows	5,184.00	5,189.20
	47,730.44	44,045.32
Receipts		
Subscriptions	2,095.01	1,165.00
Fund Raising (snowdrops)	202.00	568.92
Fund Raising (Garden Party)	1,404.00	
Fund Raising (Bulb Teas)		2,200.41
HMRC Refunds	373.90	755.98
Donations	850.00	0.00
Interest	5.70	47.22
Total Receipts	4,930.61	4,737.53
Payments		
Printing	0.00	0.00
Fund Raising (garden party)	155.97	0.00
Fund Raising (snowdrops)	0.00	626.40
Church Maintenance	1,950.67	380.00
Opening Up work (architect, pipes, water etc)	6,509.09	6,638.37
Total Payments	8,615.73	7,644.77
Surplus for the year	-3,685.12	-2,907.24
Closing balances as at 31st December		
Lloyds Bank	34,548.74	31,594.28
COIF	4,307.38	4,349.41
Scottish Widows	5,189.20	5,194.39
	44,045.32	41,138.08

Friends of St James' Birlingham
Chair's Report 2022-23

The past year is probably best described as one of consolidation and modest progress.

The eleven months since our last AGM have seen the successful completion of the much-anticipated scheme to provide fresh water to the church; after all the regulatory hurdles put in our way by Wychavon district council planners, the actual work was done inside a day and no significant archaeological discoveries were made.

I am also glad to be able to report that, by the time this report is considered at the AGM, the updating of the floodlighting of the tower should also have been completed, both reducing its environmental impact (on wildlife and carbon emissions) and improving its safety.

Sadly, with the major and crucial exception of the Snowdrop Teas, we held no social or fundraising occasions, but this was not for the want of trying. Our major event, to "Toast the Harvest", had to be cancelled due to the period of mourning for Her Late Majesty, Queen Elizabeth the Second. I hope the committee will make the organising of a new event in 2023-4 a high priority.

The Snowdrop Teas are still taking place as I write this report so I cannot give a definitive account of the outcome. However, the combination of the hard work of Caryl Mills and her wonderful team of volunteers, the horticultural enthusiasm of Maryanne Dyer in arranging the planting, care and sale of hundreds of pots of snowdrops, and the excellent weather in February, look set to have produced record income from the teas for the Friends. Our deep thanks to all those involved in this important fundraising and social event in the life of the village.

On a disappointing note, it was agreed that the wider "Opening up St James'" project was too financially ambitious to be achievable in the post-Covid funding environment, and in the current economic situation. This decision was reached with regret, but the Friends and the PCC now have a thorough plan which can be taken forward in the future when it is judged that the background is more encouraging.

As the Treasurer's report will show, membership of the Friends remains strong, and we are fortunate to have a large group of supporters. However, there has been a significant turnover in the village's population in recent months and we need to reach out to the newcomers to welcome them to Birlingham and to encourage them to support the work that must be done to keep our beautiful church and churchyard looking as they do.

I am, as ever, immensely grateful to the committee for all their work and in particular to Jayne Mackenzie, our highly efficient secretary and to our Treasurer, Ian Yates. This year I must single out Ian for special mention as he stands down at this AGM after many years of conscientious, efficient and prudent service as our treasurer. Although I have grounds to be optimistic that a very capable successor will be found, Ian's combination of wisdom, humour and diligence will be sadly missed.

Peter Luff
February 2023

Treasurer's report for the calendar year 2022

2022 was a year in which things returned to normal after the highs and lows due to Covid restrictions.

- Income from subscriptions was £1165 compared with £2095 in 2021, £750 in 2020 and £915 in 2019.
- The number of Friends subscriptions was 43, compared to 63 in 2021, 31 in 2020 and 41 in 2019. There was a major push to signup new Friends in 2021 and the lower number of subscriptions this year demonstrates the importance of maintaining regular contact with them.
- Unlike 2021, in 2022 the bulb teas were able to go ahead raising an excellent income of £2200. In addition £568 of snow drops were sold.
- Through efforts to obtain gift aid declarations from subscribers the reclaim was £755 up from £373 the previous year.
- Total income for the year was £4737 compared to £4930 in 2021.
- The major items of expenditure were for the planning and installation of the water supply. This totalled £6638.
- In order to try and maximise the profit from selling snowdrops in 2023, it was decided to buy the bulbs early with volunteers potting and maintaining them over the winter. As a result an additional expenditure of £626 was incurred in 2022.
- However total expenditure was £7644 down from £8615 in 2021 due to lower church maintenance costs.
- Overall reserves for the year reduced by £2907 giving a total of £41,138 on deposit in Friends' accounts as of 31st December 2022.

I'd like to thank all those who have given so generously. I'd also like to thank the trustees, committee members and volunteers who work tirelessly on behalf of the Friends. After eight years as treasurer I have decided to hand the role over to Paul Burton who I'm confident will do an excellent job going forward. I intend, however, to remain as a trustee.

Ian Yates, Treasurer

Report of the Trustees

The members of the Executive Committee as Trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ending 31st December 2022.

Objects

The aims of the Trust are to promote the Christian religion by assisting the maintenance, repair, preservation, improvement, beautification and reconstruction for the benefit of the public of the fabric of the Parish Church of Birlingham in the Diocese of Worcester.

Activities

These are detailed in the Chair's report for the year.

Trustees

The following served as trustees and members of the Executive Committee during the year. P Luff (Chair). I Yates (Treasurer). J Mackenzie (Secretary). M Dyer (President). C Mills. M Frost. P Burton. A Woodward. S Hayward. P Chinneck. Rev'd C Lording (ex officio).

Finance

Income was £4737.53 in comparison with £4930.61 in the previous year. Expenditure was £7644.77 producing a deficit of -£2907.24 compared with a deficit of -£3685.12 in 2021. At the year end the bank balances totalled £41,138.08 (2021 was £44,045.32) of which £1,000 was Endowment Capital.

Reserves

The appropriate level of reserves is considered each year by the Trustees.

Investment Policy

The Trust's reserves are all held in current and deposit accounts which provide an acceptable level of security.

Risk

The Trustees consider that the measures in place are adequate to protect the assets of the Trust.

Public Interest

The Trust seeks to maintain the ancient listed church which is an important feature in the centre of the parish and as such is enjoyed by residents and visitors alike. From time to time the Trustees run events which are open to the general public and help to promote community spirit.



Looking towards Hall Farm from Broadway Road, 18th February (Photo: Nikki Hollier)

Letters to the Editors

We welcome brief letters to the Editors on any subject relating to Birlingham. The Editors reserve the right to shorten letters and we cannot guarantee that all letters will be printed.

Please send letters to:

news@birlingham.org

The Bench and the Phone Box

As a fairly recent new resident of our lovely village, I am delighted and proud to see the refurbished telephone box and the renewed bench. All this during the time of our superb snowdrop displays and the accompanying teas in the Hall. I believe the village walks that bit taller because of these.

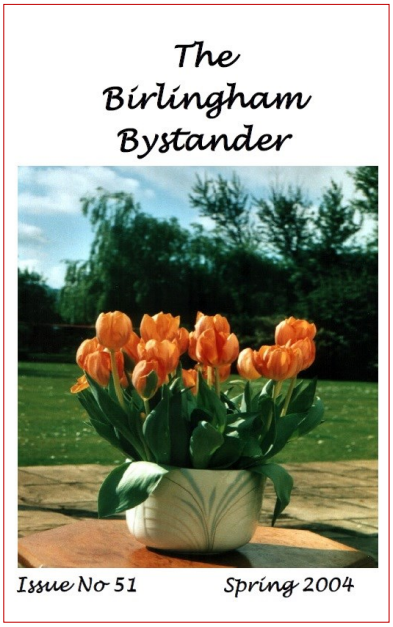
I understand that Maxine Cook was the main force behind the works on the telephone box and the bench and deserves our grateful thanks for her, I guess, Herculean efforts. Thank you very much Maxine, your work is done and has borne fruit!

Paul Burton

Personal Ads

Personal adverts should consist of one paragraph of text, maximum 100 words, and will be included in a single issue of Birlingham News. Please note that advertisement text will be published exactly as received. Personal ads should be sent to news@birlingham.org no later than the Monday before publication. Birlingham News is published on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month.

Bystander Archives



The Spring 2004 edition of the Birlingham Bystander begins with 'Passing Thoughts' by Pat Taylor on letter writing. This is followed by a continuation of Harry Porter's reflections on a Black Sea cruise.

There is a report by the Friends of St James' and an article by the new tree warden, Stuart Crowther. A recipe for a low-cholesterol fruit cake is followed by a report of the Flower & Produce Show and one for Birlingham WI. An article by Peter Dodd brings us up to date about his life. The Service of Nine Lessons and Carols is recorded, as is the Bulb Sunday Concert.

Among other articles is one by Ian Winnard about a rocket he had constructed. Imogen and Nick Carson reflect on their first year at the Swan.

Obituaries are included for George Hancock and Mabel Bowles. Welcomes include Neil and Pat Lightbody, and George and Isabel Revill are congratulated on their ruby wedding.

Issue 51 of the *Bystander* can be viewed at:
www.birlingham.org/village/bystander/issues/bystander051.pdf

Planning Applications

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

Broadgrove Nursery Farm Shop, Eckington Road: Commercial redevelopment of nursery site with 7no. units (Case No. W/23/00042/FUL). Awaiting decision by Wychavon District Council. (Consultation period ends on 27th March.) Full details can be viewed on the Wychavon DC website at:
https://plan.wychavon.gov.uk/Planning/Display/W/23/00042/FUL

Dates for your diary

March

Wed 15	Birlingham Parish Council, 7.00pm, Birlingham Village Hall
Thu 16	Birlingham IW, 7.30pm, Birlingham Village Hall
Sun 19	Mothering Sunday (Holy Communion), 10.30am, St James' Church
Mon 20	Coronation Celebrations Open Meeting
Mon 27	Friends of St James' Church AGM, 6.00pm, St James' Church

April

Wed 5	Cuppa & Chat, 3.00–4.30pm, Birlingham Village Hall
Sun 9	Easter Day, 10.30am, St James' Church
Thu 20	Birlingham IW, 7.30pm, Birlingham Village Hall
Sun 23	Holy Communion, 10.30am, St James' Church

Birlingham News online is available at www.birlingham.org. Details of future editions will be emailed to subscribers of *Birlingham News*. These emails are available to residents of Birlingham, their families and friends. If you know anyone who would like to receive these emails, or have any comments or items for inclusion in either the email or online edition of *Birlingham News*, or wish to be removed from the mailing list, please write to news@birlingham.org.

Birlingham News online is open to any organisation or business within the parish to promote events. Inclusion of an event does not imply that Birlingham Jubilee Committee supports either the event or the views of the organisation promoting it.

The copy date for the next edition is Monday 20th March (for publication on Wednesday 22nd March). We regret that we cannot guarantee to include any items submitted after that date.

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