Birlingham News online

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Editorial

It is difficult to remember a time when we were not being told that there was an urgent need to cut public expenditure. Certainly that was the case after the 2008 banking crisis and the austerity measures that followed, and it is still a common cry among politicians of all colours.

Whether our public services are actually worse than they were 20 years ago is questionable. No doubt you can point to some that need improvement but in many ways we do not do badly.

With the constant clamour for yet more cuts, it is therefore rather heartening to discover that our Parish Council has been given over £1500 of public money to spend on parish projects. This is a significant amount of income that could enhance some aspect of village life.

Community groups have been contacted and asked to make suggestions for how this windfall could best be used and the ideas collected so far are listed opposite.

Now, the Parish Council is opening up the debate to the wider community, giving you the opportunity to comment on the current ideas or suggest new ones.

So it is time for you to think: How could we make life in Birlingham even better?

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Potential Community Infrastructure Projects

by Councillor David Glover

Birlingham Parish Council has been notified that a Community Infrastructure Levy payment of £1543.91 is being paid by Wychavon District Council to the Parish Council as a Neighbourhood Fund.

Neighbourhood Fund monies are paid to the Parish Council from Community Infrastructure Levy receipts received by Wychavon District Council. The monies can be spent on the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure, or anything else concerned with addressing the demands that development places on an area.

Examples of what the monies can be applied to include the following, either individually or cumulatively (although the Parish Council is not currently aware of any further funding, the District Council will be consulted on this point). Monies must be spent within five years of receipt:

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

We have asked the various community groups within Birlingham for their ideas and have received the following suggestions to date:

Marquee: a contribution towards a new marquee, primarily for the Flower and Produce show

Table Tennis Equipment*

Pickleball Equipment*

* *subject to Village Hall consent for storage and utilisation*

Planter Containers: to be sited at each entrance sign to the village

We would welcome opinions on these four initiatives, as well as any alternative ideas (with obvious constraints within the budget) and would appreciate opinions/suggestions being sent to June Hiden, Parish Clerk (birlingham_clerk@yahoo.co.uk). Ideally we will consider all suggestions at the next meeting of Birlingham Parish Council on Wednesday 19th November 2025.

Birlingham IW

Thursday 16th October

by Caryl Mills



Birlingham IW will be holding its next meeting on Thursday 16th October. The meeting is held in the Village Hall and starts at 7.30pm.

Karen Crowther will be introducing members to Diamond Art. We will be making a notebook cover.

All are welcome – there will be a charge for non-members of £8 to cover the cost of materials and guest fee. Refreshments afterwards.

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BIRLINGHAM VILLAGE HALL
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Tickets
Chris Hermon - 07796 070310
Angela Fitch - 07585 904636
All proceeds will be donated towards the maintenance of our Village Hall



(Above) Not a medieval scene but autumnal early-morning pickers in Lower End on 24th September. They are picking onions, and they said the fires were to keep them warm.

(Photo: Julia Luff)



(Above) Pigeons above the apples, 28th September

(Photo: Nikki Hollier)



(Right) Footpath along Asham Meadow after tree clear-out

(Photo: Amy Purcell)

Worcestershire Rights of Way Improvement Plan

Closing date Sunday 26th October

Worcestershire County Council are creating a new Rights of Way Improvement Plan and conducting a residents' survey to find out you views. The survey will remain open for another two and a half weeks.

The current proposals and the survey can be found at:

https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/RoWIPengage



Planning Applications

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

Hills Cottage, Upper End: Discharge of conditions 4 (Bat mitigation strategy) and 5 (External lighting) of planning application W/25/02657/HP (Case No. W/25/02072/CCO). Awaiting decision by Wychavon District Council. (Consultation period ends on 17th October.) Full details can be viewed on the Wychavon DC website at:

https://plan.wychavon.gov.uk/Planning/Display/W/25/02072/CCO

The following planning applications have been determined by Wychavon District Council:

Peacock Barn, Lower End: Removal of existing sheds and construction of outbuilding (Case No. W/25/0415/HP). **Approved**. Full details and conditions can be viewed on the Wychavon DC website at:

https://plan.wychavon.gov.uk/Planning/Display/W/25/01415/HP

The Parish Council comments are available at:

http://www.birlingham.org/pc_info/pc_comments_25_01415.pdf

Chance Cottage, Broadway Road: Discharge of Condition 3 (EMES) of planning permission W/25/00571/HP (Case No. W/25/01685/CCO). **Approved**. Full details can be viewed on the Wychavon DC website at:

https://plan.wychavon.gov.uk/Planning/Display/W/25/01685/CCO

The Old Rectory, New Barn Lane: Undertake tree works, as detailed on application form and in any accompanying information (Case No. W/25/01989/CAN). **No objection**. Full details can be viewed on the Wychavon DC website at:

https://plan.wychavon.gov.uk/Planning/Display/W/25/01989/CAN

Bystander Archives



The bumper, 64-page, Autumn 2019 edition of the *Birlingham Bystander* begins with a raft of 90th birthdays: Joan Hollier, Walter Clode and Granny Rodwell. This is followed by the wedding of Rebecca Cant and Tom Bennett, and Hannah White and Tom Dunham.

There are articles on the London Marathon, unwanted mice and Worcestershire Open Studios. An interview with Kath Payne in 2002 records her life in the Women's Land Army.

The Church Garden Party, IW steam train ride and visit to the Court House (on separate occasions!), Parish Council, Harvest Festival, Memories Project and Flower & Produce Show are all featured, along with an article on the curlews in Asham Meadow.

Welcomes include new arrivals at the Row, and Nick and Charlotte Baskerville, with goodbyes to Ceri Matthews, and Mark Shale and Lyn Gardner. There are obituaries for John Wheatley and Fred Cooper.

Issue 82 of the *Bystander* can be viewed at:
www.birlingham.org/village/bystander/issues/bystander082.pdf

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

Personal Ads

Personal adverts should consist of a maximum of 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.

Dates for your diary

October

Thu 16	Birlingham IW, 7.30pm, Birlingham Village Hall
Sun 26	St James' Autumn Walk, 3.00pm, War Memorial

November

Wed 5	Cuppa & Chat, 3.00–4.30pm, Birlingham Village Hall
Sat 8	Birlingham's Music Night, 7.30pm, Birlingham Village Hall
Tue 11	Remembrance Service, 10.45am, War Memorial
Wed 19	Birlingham Parish Council, 7.00pm, Birlingham Village Hall
Thu 20	Birlingham IW, 7.30pm, Birlingham Village Hall

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 October (for publication on Wednesday 22nd October). We regret that we cannot guarantee to include any items submitted after that date.

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