

Birdham Parish Council Newsletter

June 2012



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Annual Parish Meeting

Birdham Parish Council decided to hold the Annual Parish Meeting as a wider Village Meeting for the first time this year and it was a great success.

The meeting was held on Saturday 5th May. A host of speakers representing different clubs and societies based in Birdham joined Parish Councillors at the Village Hall. The event attracted a large turnout of residents, despite it being FA Cup final day!

Refreshments were laid on by the parish council, which proved popular.

Speakers included our local community police officer; the president of the Birdham WI; the chairman of the village hall trust; a senior churchwarden and village fete organizer; the manager of Birdham Nursery; and speakers representing the social club, the village choir, cricket and history clubs.

A big **'Thank You'** to all the speakers and to everyone else who came along.

We fully expect to continue with this format in future and hope to attract more speakers representing more groups within the community, so please keep reading your Parish Council Newsletter, keep visiting the Parish Council website [<http://birdham.org.uk>] and keep in touch.

Birdham Village Fete

The marching band is booked, the fun dog show is being organised, there will be a vintage car display, fancy dress competition based on the Diamond Jubilee and Olympics themes, loads of games and stalls, computing and internet tuition, a tombola, a raffle and much more.

What else could it be but ...

BIRDHAM VILLAGE FETE

Saturday 14th July 1:00 – 4:00pm

In case you are feeling peckish at any time, there will be a hog roast, a BBQ, delicious tea and cakes (of course) with an opportunity to buy more cakes from some of the stalls!

With the Church, School, Scouts, Social Club, WI and, not forgetting, Birdham Parish Council all working together, it promises to be a fantastic occasion!

We are trying to get as many villagers as possible to be involved with this event. If you can help in any way, either in the planning and organising or just helping out on the day with a particular stall or game please put your name forward to Alan Drew on (01243) 512441.

Donations of books, items for the tombola and raffle, bric-a-brac, nearly new children's toys and plants are needed... **can you help please?**

WI Wall Hanging in Village Hall

The second decorative wall hanging is now in place in Birdham Village Hall. It is the work of Birdham WI Craft Group, was designed by one of the members and has taken twelve ladies two years to complete. It was created using mostly recycled tapestry wools and beads in vibrant coloured geometrical squares and is a beautiful addition to the Village Hall.



Affordable Housing update

As a result of questions from residents about how and why the proposed Crooked Lane site had been selected, members of the Parish Council and the Affordable Housing Site Selection Working Party met with representatives of the Planning Policy and Housing Investment Teams at Chichester District Council in April. A productive discussion took place over the issues and a definite need for affordable housing in Birdham was confirmed but funding is time limited. An assessment of all possible sites in Birdham was given as well as answers to questions put by residents, the council and working party.

All the information is available to view on the Birdham Parish Council website, [<http://birdham.org.uk>] simply type 'Affordable Housing Site Assessment' in the search facility.

Schoolchildren design clean up message to dog walkers

Year 6 pupils at Birdham Primary School have been working with Chichester District Council and Birdham Parish Council to produce colourful signs to highlight the problem of dog fouling in their community.

In March, the Council had received complaints from children & parents about dog mess in Crooked Lane. The Dog Warden, working with the children, produced 32 eye-catching designs warning dog owners of their responsibility. Birdham Parish Council have chosen, and will pay for 5 winning ideas to be made into metal signs and these will be erected soon along Crooked Lane, the playing field and school entrance.

The competition winners are Sophia Wakefield, Lily Mahoney, Joe Knight, Maya Patel and Millie Lewis.

Failing to clear up after your pet is a criminal offence and offenders could face an on-the-spot fine of £75.00

Jubilee Seat

Residents asked if the Parish Council would consider commemorating the Queen's sixty years on the throne with something suitable for older as well as younger residents. So Councillor Angela Parks identified the ideal solution, a bench to be sited in the playing field. The bench is being jointly sponsored by Birdham Parish Council and Russell's Garden Centre, with a contribution from Chichester District Council.

Jubilee Concert

Jubilee celebrations in Birdham started with a concert in the Village Hall on Saturday 26th May. Birdham Village Choir and guest performers put on a rousing show with music ranging from a hymn for the first Queen Elizabeth, through Land of Hope and Glory to Gareth Malone's 'Where ever you are' written in 2011. A mixture of songs and poetry, serious and amusing, original and old favourites, often had the audience participating and everyone was on their feet at the end to sing the National Anthem. The concert and refreshments (prepared and donated by members of the choir) raised money for the Snowdrop Trust.

Well done to Sue Monks, choir leader, who organised this very successful event. Choir starts again in September and Sue is always on the lookout for new members. (Monday 10th September, 6-7pm, St James' Church, Church Room, no audition necessary)

20mph Limit

After many years of lobbying Birdham is at last being considered for 20mph speed limits on the roads north of the Birdham Straight. West Sussex County Council is drawing up plans for this and also for changes as a result of the Safer Routes to School initiative. Current ideas include a footpath in near the church and increased parking near the Village Hall. Consultation is expected in the next few months so watch out for notices.



New Website Launched

On Monday April 2nd 2012 Birdham Parish Council launched a new website. Developed by local company Access-ByDesign, who also designed the previous site, it is a fresh, responsive design that will automatically adapt so it can be viewed on any of today's modern devices.

You will find contact details for all your councillors, meeting minutes and agendas, latest news and information on upcoming events to name but a few. The best thing to do is take a look at:

<http://birdham.org.uk/>

You can also follow us (@BirdhamPC) on Twitter and join us on Facebook.

Please take a moment to take a look at the new site and think about what you would like to see on it and how we can use it to communicate with you.

Yendor Farm

The Parish Council encourages and welcomes community consultation prior to submission of a planning application, which gives residents a chance to influence the way Birdham looks and develops. With this in mind Mr John Parker and Mr Joe Parker are holding an 'open-house' to give Birdham residents an opportunity to comment on their proposals for two houses for their families at Yendor Farm. Draft plans will be available to view at the site off Hundredsteddle Lane between 10am and 2pm on Saturday 9 June 2012.

This notice is for your information and does not prejudice any future decision of the council.

Neighbourhood Planning

Councillors attended a very useful presentation on Neighbourhood Planning at the Annual Meeting of the Parishes held by Chichester District Council. Work will be starting on this important topic over the summer in Birdham. In the meantime if you would like to find out more search on the Birdham Parish Council website for 'Neighbourhood Planning'

Councillor Vacancy

There is a vacancy on Birdham Parish council. If you think you might be interested in becoming a parish councillor please contact the clerk for more information. Notices will also be posted on the Parish Council notice boards.

Car Boot Sales

Held on the last Saturday of the month, throughout the summer months, on the playing field.

Dates:

June 30th / July 28th / August 25th

September 29th (reserved in case bad weather affects any of the other dates)

What's coming up?

Monday 11th June: Birdham History Group

Saturday 14th July: Birdham Village Fete

Who do I contact?

Parish Councillors:

Jane Finch (Chair) janefinch1@talktalk.net

Carolyn Cobbold (Vice-Chair) trcobbold@msn.com

Angela Parks camping@ellscottpark.co.uk

Marion Barker marion.barker@talk21.com

Stephen Crossley SR_Crossley@onetel.com


Andy Grafham andy.grafham@gmail.com

Sheila Leach SMLeach@btinternet.com

Roger Tilbury rogertilbury539@btinternet.com

Or write to or email the Parish Clerk (David Siggs)

 clerk@birdhamparishcouncil.org.uk

 28 Langdale Avenue, Chichester, PO19 8JQ

The Neighbourhood Specialist Police Team responsible for Birdham is:

PCSO Rose Bainbridge **07881 754535**

rosemary.bainbridge@sussex.pnn.police.uk

and PCSO Ollie Broad **07825 735399**

oliver.j.broad@sussex.pnn.police.uk

If a crime is being committed dial 999.

If you have information about a crime or an incident which is no longer happening dial **101** (from a landline) or **0845 60 70 999**. Or you can call Crime Stoppers anonymously on **0800 555 111**

Police advise everyone to "Lock everything!" and have increased their presence.

If you and your household would prefer to receive this **newsletter by email** in the future please send your name, address and email address with your request for an email copy to

clerk@birdhamparishcouncil.org.uk

The next parish council meeting is **Monday 18th June 2012** at 7pm in the Village Hall. Everyone is welcome and we would love to see you.

(Meetings are every 3rd Monday in the month, except August)