

## Curdridge Parish Council

2 Berkeley Gardens, Hedge End, Southampton, Hampshire, SO30 0QW

Tel: 01489 786557 or mobile 07858 491919

Email: clerk@curdridge-pc.org.uk



**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF CURDRIDGE  
PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT 6.55 PM ON THURSDAY 21 MAY 2020 HELD  
VIA A PUBLIC ZOOM ONLINE MEETING DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS  
LOCKDOWN**

### **Present:**

Cllr Eric Bodger (Chairman)  
Cllr Steve Wallin (Vice Chairman)  
Cllr Larry Burden  
Cllr Rory Kemp  
Cllr Lynne Newton  
Cllr Sian Townsend

### **In attendance:**

Jenny Whittle (Parish Council Manager - PCM)  
Cllr Roger Huxstep (County Councillor)  
Cllr Vivian Achwal (District Councillor)  
Cllr Roger Bentote (District Councillor)  
There were no members of the public in attendance.

### **20.79 To note attendance and apologies for Absence**

Apologies had been received from Cllr Caister.

### **20.80**

#### **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **20.81 To elect a Chair of Curdridge Parish Council for 2020-2021**

Cllr Wallin nominated Cllr Bodger to be Chair, Cllr Townsend seconded.

***Resolved unanimously to elect Cllr Bodger as Chairman for 2020-2021.***

### **20.82 To receive the chair's Declaration of Acceptance of Office**

***Resolved that Cllr Bodger would sign the official Declaration of Acceptance as soon as possible. ACTION: PCM/CLLR BODGER***

### **20.83 Chair's Statement**

Cllr Bodger thanked Members for electing him to be Chair once again. He said that the current year had been a busy and interesting year and that he was looking forward to having another productive year.

### **20.84 To elect a Vice Chair of Curdridge Parish Council for 2020-2021**

Cllr Townsend nominated Cllr Wallin to be Vice Chair, Cllr Newton seconded.

***Resolved unanimously to elect Cllr Wallin as Vice Chairman for 2020-2021.***

### **20.85 To receive the Vice Chair's Declaration of Acceptance of Office**

Cllr Wallin thanked Members for electing him as Vice Chairman again. He had enjoyed the current year and looked forward to helping the Council function and move forward further in the next year.

***Resolved that Cllr Wallin would sign the official Declaration of Acceptance as soon as possible. ACTION: PCM/CLLR WALLIN***

#### **20.86 Public Session**

There were no matters arising.

#### **20.87 To appoint members of Planning, Highways and Licensing Committee and to elect Chair and Vice Chair for 2020-2021**

***Resolved that all Members would be on the Planning, Highways and Licensing Committee, with Cllr Bodger acting as Chair and Cllr Townsend acting as Vice Chair, although it was noted that this Committee would only be necessary outside of Full Council Meetings (as Planning Applications are now dealt with at Full Council).***

#### **20.88 To receive and agree the Annual Schedule of Meeting Dates of Curdridge Parish Council for 2020 (and to review meeting arrangements if applicable)**

The PCM advised Members that this item was placed on the Agenda to ensure that any new Council (if applicable) has an option to review meeting timings.

***Resolved that Members were still happy with the current schedule of meetings.***

#### **20.89 To appoint representatives to parish offices**

20.89.1 Allotment Recreation – Cllr Newton and Cllr Townsend.

20.89.2 Curdridge Parish Council Cemetery - Cllr Kemp, Cllr Newton and Cllr Townsend.

20.89.3 Footpaths/Rights of Way Officer - Cllr Newton and Cllr Wallin.

20.89.4 Pond Warden - Cllr Burden and Cllr Kemp.

20.89.5 Risk Assessment - All Parish Councillors & Parish Council Manager.

20.89.6 Transport Representative – Cllr Burden & Councillor Newton.

20.89.7 Tree Wardens - Cllr Burden, Cllr Kemp and Cllr Newton.

20.89.8 To appoint representatives to any other parish offices arising – none.

#### **20.90 To appoint representatives to outside bodies**

20.90.1 Affordable Housing – Cllr Bodger.

20.90.2 Hampshire Association of Local Councils – Cllr Bodger and Cllr Kemp.

20.90.3 Botley to Bishops Waltham Trail – Cllr Newton and Cllr Wallin.

20.90.4 Botley and Curdridge Welfare – Council to invite Joanne Furby to continue to represent the parish council on this forum (Rory can do if necessary).

20.90.6 Southern Parishes - Cllr Bodger, Cllr Burden (and Cllr Kemp when required with Cllr Newton also offering advice in her areas of expertise).

20.90.7 Police/PACT – Cllr Kemp and Cllr Newton.

20.90.8 Reading Room Committee – Cllr Bodger and Cllr Burden.

20.90.9 River Hamble - Hamble River Estuary Partnership - Cllr Kemp (with support from John Mitchell if required).

20.90.10 River Hamble – River Hamble Valley Forum – Cllr Newton.

20.90.11 School Liaison – Cllr Townsend.

20.90.12 North Whiteley Forum – Cllr Bodger.

20.90.13 To appoint representatives to any other outside bodies arising – none.

#### **20.91 To receive reports from the County Councillor and District Councillor**

Cllr Huxstep apologised for being slightly late to join the meeting. He advised the only things to add to his written report below was breaking news that a new test for Coronavirus that gives results in 20 minutes had been developed in Hampshire. Members were proud and pleased. He also advised that HCC Household Waste Centres were extending their opening hours.

Cllr Huxstep reported on behalf of Hampshire County Council as follows:

Last May, the council welcomed Councillor Charles Choudary as our incoming chairman and Councillor Mel Kendal as vice-chairman; he will take over as chairman later this month. The current Conservative administration of HCC is now entering the last year of its current term. The make-up of the council changed last May from 56 Conservative members to 55, there are still 19 Liberal Democrats, 1 Labour, down from 2, and 1 Basingstoke & Deane Independent Group, unchanged. There is now 1 Unaffiliated member, a Conservative who resigned from the group following Boris Johnson's election as the Leader of the Conservative Party. Councillor Roy Perry stood down as the Leader of the Council and Councillor Keith Mans was elected as the new Leader.

### **Facts and Figures**

In context, Hampshire's population is 1,382,542, the third most populous county in England (85% is rural and 15% urban). HCC maintains 5400 miles of roads, 4300 miles pavements, 133,000 streetlights, 481 schools, 45 libraries, 3 Discovery Centres and 1 e-library, 16 care homes with 960 beds for older people, 9 residential homes for children and young people, 24 Household Waste Centres and 5 Country Parks. Every year 94% of all household waste is diverted from landfill (40% recycled); the remainder is burnt for energy and powers 50,000 homes. Every day 454,000\* people travel to work by car or van, 86,000\* bus journeys are made, and only 4%\* journeys are by train. More than half of Hampshire's EU citizens have signed up to the Government's EU settlement scheme. *\*(These figures have clearly been reduced as a result of the pandemic.)*

### **Brexit**

Brexit as an issue is still with us until the end of the year, at least. It has been reported that Jean-Yves Le Drian, the French foreign minister has helpfully stated that the trade negotiators will 'rip each other apart'. There are current signs of this; the negotiations are not helped by being swamped in the media by the Covid-19 pandemic.

### **Council Tax: County Council approved £2.1 billion budget for 2020/21 on Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> February.**

At the meeting of the full County Council, budget plans for the upcoming financial year were agreed, which will see funding prioritised for vulnerable children and adults, alongside key investments in Hampshire's roads and infrastructure, and further commitment to tackling climate change. Residents will by now have received their Council Tax bills for 2020/21.

Commending the budget plans to Council, Councillor Keith Mans, said: "The County Council has a strong financial track record. Our budget proposals are the result of some very careful planning which began last autumn to address significant financial pressures resulting from the anticipated shortfall in our revenue budget of a further £80 million by April 2021. We have set our course for the year ahead – to maintain high performing services for the people of Hampshire while keeping council tax the 2nd lowest of counties nationally."

The priority remains protecting those who are most in need in our communities – vulnerable children, and the growing numbers of elderly people and adults with very complex care needs. A proportion of the Council Tax precept will be used specifically to meet adult social care pressures in 2020/21, and we continue to press Government Ministers for a long-term funding solution beyond 2021/22, as we simply cannot sustain growth in demand and cost indefinitely.

In the coming year, we will also be making significant one-off investments in Hampshire's future - with £3 million for maintenance of the county's 5,400 miles of roads and fixing potholes, and an extra £2 million of funding annually thereafter. Furthermore, and building on

our commitment to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050, we will be investing an additional £2 million in carbon reduction measures across the Authority and initiatives to help make Hampshire more resilient to the impacts of a changing climate.

Maintaining Hampshire's strong and prosperous economy has also been reflected in the budget plans – through a capital programme worth £386.5 million over the next three years to boost jobs and the quality of the environment. This provision for Hampshire's infrastructure brings the County Council's four-year total investment in the fabric of Hampshire, to £733 million – one of the largest capital programmes in the country."

Schemes include:

- £94.8 million for new and extended school buildings in Hampshire to ensure there is a school place for every child in Hampshire – and giving a total of 19,100 new school places by September 2023
- £115.8 million for structural maintenance and improvement of roads and bridges in Hampshire
- £45.8 million for integrated transport schemes including over £10 million specifically focused on walking and cycling improvements
- £107.7 million for major improvement of school and other County Council buildings.

The County Council, like many other Councils, is therefore experiencing huge fiscal pressures and the Leader has made representations to the Prime Minister, corresponded with Treasury ministers and had face to face meetings with the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) including the Secretary of State.

The actual available budget and expenditure will be affected by the Chancellor's almost surreal and certainly unprecedented budgetary interventions propelled by the Covid-19 pandemic.

### **Climate Change**

Hampshire County Council has been taking active steps to ensure Hampshire is resilient to climate change and in mitigating further changes through carbon reduction measures. HCC's own emissions have reduced by more than 43%, with more than a 50% reduction by 2025 and carbon neutrality by 2050. The 2050 Hampshire Commission of Enquiry placed climate change and the environment as its top priority. In the budget HCC pledged £2m towards climate change measures in addition to the capital schemes outlined above. HCC is aware its greatest leadership and influence will be achieved by working in partnership with the District, City and Parish Councils, businesses, and communities. At a household level HCC is supporting the county-wide Greening Campaign - this aims to find simple solutions around reducing and measuring power consumption, insulating housing stock, reducing water usage, sourcing local food, community travel and renewable energy schemes. Parish representatives will be invited to attend, as circumstances allow, climate change briefing events.

### **Coronavirus: signposting Hampshire residents to the most up-to-date information and advice**

Hampshire County Council and health partners continue to keep a close watch on the development of the Coronavirus or Covid-19 pandemic – with processes in place to respond as and when required. As at 1700 yesterday the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in Hampshire stood at 3,193 from our population of 1,376,316. Sadly, the number of coronavirus related deaths up to 8th May is 776. Between 29<sup>th</sup> February and 8<sup>th</sup> May, 22% of all deaths involved Covid-19. Our thoughts and prayers go out to families and friends affected by this pestilence.

Hampshire residents can stay up to date with the latest information and guidance on the Government's webpages, at [gov.uk/coronavirus](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus). One of the best ways to minimise the spread of any virus is to adopt good [respiratory](#) practice and [hand hygiene](#).

### **Schools**

Schools 2019 GCSE performance statistics confirmed that Hampshire pupils continue to perform better than their peers nationally at the end of year 11, along with over 90% of our schools being judged as good or outstanding by Ofsted. The latest news of course, is that all schools are closed until at the earliest 1<sup>st</sup> June. It is understood that this is a target date subject to the five tests that the government has set out, to be fulfilled. In anticipation, schools are being invited to make appropriate preparations. Selected schools however have remained open for children of key workers and vulnerable children, as part of the country's ongoing response to coronavirus. Examples of these workers include NHS staff, police and supermarket delivery drivers who need to be able to go to work to support the country's fight to tackle coronavirus. Vulnerable children include those who have a social worker and those with Education, Health and Care Plans – a legal document that describes a child's special educational needs and the support they require.

Children who do not fall into these groups should remain at home with appropriate care. Where schools are unable to look after these children, the local authority will work with the Department for Education's regional teams to ensure an alternative option is available in the same area.

I hope and trust that my next annual report will be able to say that a national vaccination programme for Covid-19 is well underway or even complete. Stay safe, stay well, stay alert,  
**Cllr Roger Huxstep**

Cllr Roger Bentote reported on behalf of Winchester City (and Councillors Vivian Achwal & Jonathan Fern) as follows:

A year ago, we were very pleased to report that Winchester City Council would now be in the control of Liberal Democrats. What a year! Any new administration needs some time to settle but we came out with strong conviction for actions re Climate Emergency. This was going well and other plans re Winchester City developments were being modified.

But August arrived, holidays happened and then, not quite out of the blue, a general election is called. Christmas followed and then as we are again getting back on track we are hit with a pandemic.

There has been the success of introducing glass collection and a more efficient bin collection service. The Council has also set up its own Housing Company to help local people and work has progressed on the new Winchester Sports and Leisure Centre. Everyone has been made more aware of the climate crisis and we have engaged schools in this work. Unfortunately, a day conference for pupils across the district was one of the first casualties of the pandemic.

Since mid-March most of our work has been to support all residents and in this, I believe WCC and all local parishes and people have risen to the occasion. In more recent weeks we have been looking at recovery and the way forward. It is an opportunity to rethink matters. This very meeting being held virtually shows that we can do things differently.

WCC are now holding virtual meetings with the first one of the year being held yesterday. This was the 'Annual Mayor Making' with the cabinet and committee members being sworn in. It included the election of Cllr Vivian Achwal as Deputy Mayor for 2020/21. We hope that by next May we will have returned to real meetings and the traditional Mayor Making Ceremony for Vivian. More details and dates of all future meetings can be found on the WCC website, along with helpful information for everyone re the pandemic. We look forward to another year of working with the Parish Council.

**Cllr Roger Bentote**

**20.92 To review Council's Standing Orders (previously circulated)  
Resolved to retain the current Standing Orders unchanged.**

**20.93 To review Finance Regulations (previously circulated)  
Resolved to retain the current Finance Regulations unchanged.**

**20.94 To review Curdridge Parish Council's Terms of Reference for the Planning, Highways and Licensing Committee (previously circulated)  
Resolved to retain the current Terms of Reference unchanged.**

**20.95 TO approve Assets Register for Curdridge Parish Council (previously circulated)  
Resolved to approve the current Assets Register, subject to amendment when required.  
ACTION: PCM.**

**20.96 To approve Minutes of Full Council Meeting of 7 May 2020  
Resolved to approve the Minutes of 7 May 2020. ACTION: PCM.**

**20.97 Planning Applications received from Winchester City Council for decision/response**

**NB: SHOULD YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON ANY PLANNING APPLICATION DISCUSSED ON THIS AGENDA, COMMENTS CAN BE MADE DIRECTLY TO WCC'S PLANNING DEPARTMENT WITHIN THE RELEVANT TIMEFRAME.**

20.97.1 Winchester City Council - TRO for proposed waiting restrictions on Bluebell Way Whiteley. Development north includes the extension of Bluebell Way and a new link road to the A3051 near Curdridge. The TRO is required to introduce lengths of double yellow line on Bluebell Way to prevent obstruction during the construction phase and to maintain the free flow of traffic along the new link road following construction.

**Resolved DO NOT OBJECT. ACTION: PCM.**

20.97.2 Beech Tree Calcot Lane Curdridge SO32 2BN – conversion of a building and use for residential purposes C3. Case Officer: Legal. Case No: 20/00849/LDC.

**Resolved TO OBJECT, as this application is almost a duplicate of the previous application submitted, so Council believes should have been an appeal. Council strongly feels that the new evidence given is still not sufficient to prove the applicants have been using these stables as a "permanent residence" over the past four years, or to warrant approving this application, as witness statements refer to "hearsay" rather than making a declaration of first-hand knowledge and none give any formal proof of continuous/permanent occupation as a domestic residence. It is also understood there have been no household waste collections during this period (which most certainly would have been required) and no Council Tax appears to have been charged or paid (as WCC will know from their records). Members reiterate that even if revisions have been made to the property, these have not been made visible, indicating deliberate concealment and intentional unauthorised development, especially as the applicant states that the revisions were intended, but they chose not make a Planning Application or notify the relevant authorities of the change of use. ACTION: PCM.**

**20.98 Finance**

20.98.1 To approve the Finance Report dated 21 May 2020, cheque signing & payments.

**Resolved to approve the Finance Report, cheque signing & payments. ACTION: PCM.**

20.98.2 To consider quote for replacement fencing required at Allotment Recreation (identified during Annual Health & Safety Check)

Members discussed this quotation, which had been requested as Botley Fencing have been proven to be the most competitive supplier for the parish on several occasions.

**Resolved to approve the fencing quotation that includes concrete spurs on the posts, as this area of the Allotment Recreation is extremely wet. ACTION: PCM.**

## **20.99 Correspondence**

20.99.1 Flick Drummond MP – thanking Curdridge Parish Council and all volunteers in the Curdridge area for putting an amazing package together to support vulnerable residents during the current crisis. **Noted; Members appreciated this kind gesture.**

20.99.2 Winchester City Council - St Giles Hill Neighbourhood Design Statement – Public Consultation April 2020. Deadline extended to **8th June 2020 (5pm)** and details can be found on the Consultation Hub section of the Council's website or using the direct link <https://winchester.citizenspace.com/policy-and-planning/st-giles-hill-nds-2020>. **Noted.**

20.99.3 Winchester City Council – Local Plan update presentation. **Noted.**

## **20.100 To approve and adopt Curdridge Parish Council's Emergency Plan**

Members discussed the draft document.

***Resolved to approve and adopt the Emergency Plan as drafted, without any references to individuals and to review the document annually to ensure the Emergency Plan is updated accordingly. ACTION: PCM.***

**20.101 To note Parish Clerk's Update Report (previously circulated to Members) – Noted.**

## **20.102 To receive reports from Parish Councillors**

Speed Traffic throughout Curdridge parish – all Members once again were concerned about the volume of speeding traffic through Curdridge since the easing of lockdown measures recently. The PCM will report the increased traffic and speeding to the Police. Cllr Newton would establish whether the Speedwatch equipment could be set up to log traffic speeds and if the Police approve this then the equipment would be set up in Cllr Townsends drive initially.

**ACTION: PCM/CLLR NEWTON.**

## **20.103 To move Exempt Business**

To consider passing a resolution under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 in respect of the following items of business on the grounds that it is likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

## **20.104 Planning Enforcement**

Members gave an update on ongoing cases.

**The meeting closed at 8.11 pm.**