

Chair's Notes

April 2023

Speeding

The danger from speeding traffic was among parishioners' top concerns in the last two village opinion surveys in 2001 and 2011. Things have only got worse over the decade since, with traffic swollen by thousands of new houses in Whiteley and Boorley Green.

Thanks to the efforts of Dave Thorne in managing our speed limit reminder devices, we now have extensive data on Botley Road (B3035) and Lockhams Road. We plan to get further devices, to cover Wangfield Lane, Curdridge Lane and the A3051 in Curbridge.

Although most drivers do observe the speed limit, there are still terrifyingly many racers. Somebody drove along Botley Road at 100 mph at 11:50am on February 1st!

In the second half of January, over 15% of drivers broke the limit on Botley Road. Among these, more than 1400 would have got a penalty if they had been caught by the Police. As they approached the device by the Plantation, the drivers would already have seen they were speeding from our other unit further north.

We are hoping that this large number of speeders will encourage the Police to carry out formal enforcement action.

Speedwatch volunteers have also noticed that the proportion of speeders falls when traffic is heavy – not surprising as one law-abiding driver can prevent those behind from speeding. That might be why the number breaking the 40mph limit on Lockhams Road was relatively low, though I'd prefer to think it was people being sensible in a built-up area. 85% were going 34mph or less, so a 30mph limit would not be much of an inconvenience.

Buses

Curdridge PC is working with neighbouring parishes and our County Councillor to avoid the hardship that will be caused by the decision to withdraw the Xelabus X9 service. At the same time, we are hoping to get a service to Whiteley from Reading Room Lane, though that will be of limited help to people at the far end of the village.

Coronation

At its next meetings, the Council will be looking for ways to coordinate Coronation celebrations, and would welcome ideas from parishioners.

You are Welcome at Parish Council Meetings

Meetings generally take place in the Reading Rooms at 7pm on the first and third Thursdays of each month. Please check the agenda on www.curdridge-pc.gov.uk/Agendas.aspx to find what is to be discussed – there may be planning or other items that matter to you.

The Annual Parish Assembly will be held on 18 May. It provides an opportunity to ask questions of your councillors and to socialise over snacks and beverages.

Eric Bodger

Planning Decisions and Appeals Notified by Winchester

Poplars Farm, Barn at Curdrige Lane Curdrige SO32 2BH

New driveway and associated works (as an alternative to that approved under 20/02762/FUL).
Case Officer: Rose Chapman. Case No: 22/02867/FUL. *PERMITTED*.

Rose Cottage, Outlands Lane Curdrige SO30 2HD

Erection of single storey rear extension and roof alterations including rear dormer window and associated works (amended plans). Case Officer: Marge Ballinger. Case No: 22/02758/HOU.
PERMITTED.

Land Adjacent to Beechcroft, Vicarage Lane Curdrige SO32 2DP

Outline application for erection of two dwellings with details of access. Case no. 22/02161/OUT.
REFUSED.

Land at Sherecroft Farm Botley Hill Botley Hampshire

Variation of wording of some conditions specified in cover letter from planning application
20/00494/FUL Case No. 23/00046/NMA. *Accepted as a Non-Material Amendment*.

FUTURE MEETING DATES FOR CURDRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

We generally hold two Full Council Meetings each month, on Thursdays at 7pm. The first meeting in each month is primarily for Planning business and urgent Council business as required (this meeting may be cancelled if there is not enough Planning business). The second meeting in each month covers Council business, finance business and urgent Planning business as required.

The next Full Council Meetings are on:

6 and 20 April, 4 and 18 May, 1 and 22 June 2023
in the Reading Rooms.

Meeting agendas, including finalised date, time and venue for meetings are made available on the Parish Council website www.curdrige-pc.gov.uk which will also report meeting cancellations when necessary.