

Chair's Notes December 2021

Parish Council Meetings

In general, meeting in person at the Reading Rooms has worked fairly well, with good ventilation and wider spacing than before the pandemic. But this had a disruptive effect on our first November meeting, when the Council manager and a councillor were absent, self-isolating with Covid-19. Fortunately, both have made a good recovery, and could have attended a virtual meeting if these were still permitted.

Affordable Housing – Botley Road, next to St Peter's Close

The new Planning officer at Winchester has signalled that permission is likely to be given for eight affordable homes and the self-build house that is providing the land. You can track progress by searching for 21/01787/FUL on planningapps.winchester.gov.uk. Full approval needs the City's legal department to formalize a S.106 agreement on eligibility, following principles already agreed between the Parish and WCC's representative.

There has been a change of personnel at Hastoe, the housing association that is developing the site, but this has not prevented the evaluation of building companies. We are still hoping that work can begin in spring 2022, with people able to move in a year later. See the November magazine for information on how to apply.

Care of Council Properties

You will probably have noticed that hedges have been trimmed round the Cemetery, Glebe and other Council land. The picket fencing around the pond is now in place, which should save the lives of ducklings next spring. We are progressing well with plans for other improvements, such as new paths in the cemetery.

Hampshire Highways contractors are back in the car park at the Allotment rec. while they are resurfacing Botley Road. When they have finished, we will repair the car park surface that was damaged by previous contractors who stored equipment and tarmac there.

Within the recreation ground itself, we now understand how to remove the ditch and berm behind the benches, to create a wildflower area. Three native oak trees have been ordered to complete the line of oaks along the southern side of the field, and the Allotment Association is planning to plant a walnut tree as their tribute to the work of Stuart Reay.

Where will we be voting?

The Southern Parishes group discussed the proposals for new parliamentary constituencies – these would make Curdrige the only village in the Hedge End constituency, which spans three different district councils, even though we clearly have much more affinity with Bishops Waltham.

A Personal Note

I am writing this 4500 miles away at my late wife's flat in Bonita Springs, Florida, where I am struggling with the bureaucratic processes needed to settle her estate. In my absence, Steve Wallin has chaired meetings and represented Curdrige on the North Whiteley development forum. I have been able to participate in Zoom meetings, but it's much less easy on a strange computer without full access to historic files. I will be glad to be back in Curdrige later in November.

Eric Bodger

Planning Decisions and Appeals Notified by Winchester

Rosewood Outlands Lane Curdridge SO30 2HD

Two dormers to rear and conversion of existing loft to provide additional accommodation and rear infill extension to ground floor. Case: 21/01975/HOU. Application Withdrawn.

Foxwood Fairthorne Grange Farm Botley Road Curbridge SO30 2HB

Change of use from agricultural building to a flexible commercial use. Case 21/02212/PNACOU. PNACOU – Prior Approval details REQUIRED

Proposed Botley Bypass Botley Hill Botley Hampshire

Variation of condition 15 (to provide for revised Arboricultural Impact Assessment and Arboricultural Method Statement) of permission 17/02023/HCS at Botley Bypass, Woodhouse Lane, Botley SO30 2GD. Case: 21/02012/HCS. Decided that no objection be raised.

North Whiteley Urban Extension Botley Road Curbridge (Reserved Matter)

Approval for 112 dwellings and associated works. Case: 21/02021/REM. *PERMITTED*.

FUTURE MEETING DATES FOR CURDRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL:

Council generally holds 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:

2 and 16 December, 6 and 20 Jan, 3 and 17 Feb 2022 in the Reading Rooms.

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