

Chair's Notes January 2021

Meetings

The Council will continue meeting online until the end of January 2021. We will decide then whether to return to physical meetings in the Reading Rooms in February. Much will depend on the roll-out of the vaccine. You can attend our meetings on Zoom without needing to leave home, by following the link included in the agenda. The agenda for each meeting will be posted on the Parish Council website [www.curdridge-pc.gov.uk/Council Meetings Minutes.aspx](http://www.curdridge-pc.gov.uk/Council%20Meetings%20Minutes.aspx)

Bus Shelter

As promised, Curdridge is now the possessor of a smart new bus shelter – see photo. Rather than replace the demolished shelter with another standard metal and plastic structure, your Council decided to have a more rural shelter custom-made. It was built by Mike at Botley Fencing, who has done good work for the village before, with a roof from J Smith Construction.

Affordable Housing

The working group met again (on Zoom) on 8 December, with the helpful participation of the Winchester City planner who conducted the pre-app meeting. She has asked for a Landscape Impact Assessment, which we hope will vindicate our choice of layout. This design minimizes the impact on Botley Road, concealing most of the high-density development behind a more spacious private plot. We were able to emphasise the good connectivity to the Reading Rooms and Rec over a bridge that forms part of the plan – this should really integrate the site into the village, as well as offering excellent open space.

This additional assessment will delay the full planning application slightly, but should assure a better chance of rapid approval.

The group has been invited to present to a national event about Community-led housing on 13 January. We plan to cover the importance of bringing together an enthusiastic landowner with the local council and an energetic “enabler” (in our case, Mags Wylie at Action Hampshire).

More Development

At our 3 December meeting, the Council gave its support for a proposed development of 111 houses between the Botley by-pass and Sherecroft. The landowner is to donate land for the bypass, and provide additional parking for Botley station. The design includes affordable and market housing, and incorporates the PC's requests for bat-boxes, swift nesting bricks, and infrastructure for charging electric vehicles. There will be hedgehog highways within the site, and places for owls on its periphery. We hope our support for this proposal will prevent any pressure from Winchester to develop the rural parts of the parish.

Water Troubles

Southern Water's contractor connected up a supply to the pond in 2014, at which time it should have complied with the requirements of the Water Supply (Water Fittings) Regulations 1999. But on 9 December, Southern Water inspected and decided that the fittings contravene the regulations, and have given us less than a month to install complex replacement pipework. Our next meeting will consider whether to discontinue the supply, which is very expensive. The pond has suffered pollution since Highways started draining water from the road into the pond, and we can provide sufficient depth for the ducks during droughts by shipping in non-drinking water in bulk.

Eric Bodger

Planning Decisions and Appeals Notified by Winchester

Wangfield Poultry Farm Wangfield Lane Curdridge SO32 2DA

Proposed erection of an agricultural storage building. Case Officer: Rose Lister. Case No: 20/02018/FUL. **PERMITTED.**

Curdridge House Botley Road Curdridge SO32 2DQ

The mixed use of the coach house for family purposes ancillary to the residential use of the existing dwelling (Curdridge house), and for short term / holiday lets. Case Officer: Nicola Clayton. Case No: 20/00124/FUL. **PERMITTED.**

North Whiteley Urban Extension Botley Road Curbridge

Discharge of Condition 10 (details of the how the relevant homes will meet the Affordability Test for Intermediate Housing). Case 19/00419/REM **APPROVED.**

Oak Tree House Wangfield Lane Curdridge SO32 2DA

Oak: Remove major deadwood, reduce lower crown over drive by 3 to 4 metres. Birch: Fell. Severe Lean towards the house Ref. No: 20/02395/TPO. **PERMITTED.**

Squirrels Botley Road Curdridge SO32 2DS

T1 Oak: Reduce and reshape by 3 to 4 metres, remove major deadwood to maintain the tree to its surroundings. T2 Horse Chestnut: Fell. T3 Oak: Crown raise epicormic growth to 5.4 metres, reduce the low heavy limbs by 3 metres away from the garage. To maintain the tree to its surroundings. Ref. No: 20/02354/TPO. **PERMITTED.**

Heatherlands The Plantation Curdridge SO32 2DT

Application under Class AA of the General Permitted Development Order seeking consent for the provision of an additional floor to an existing single-storey dwelling Ref. No: 20/02292/PNHOU. Prior Approval required – **APPROVED.**

The Hollies Curdridge Lane Curdridge SO32 2BH

Application under Class AA of the General Permitted Development Order seeking consent for the provision of an additional floor to an existing single-storey dwelling Ref. No: 20/02297/PNHOU. Prior Approval required – **APPROVED.**

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 is primarily for Council business, finance business and urgent Planning business as required. The next Full Council Meetings are on:

January 7 and 21 (Zoom Online Meetings)

February 4 and 18 (meeting format to be decided on January 21)

The Annual Parish Assembly (informal meeting for parishioners with refreshments) has been deferred and will be rescheduled when the need for social distancing ends. Our hope is to hold it on May 20th.

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