

Chair's Notes June 2023

Coronation Picnic

It was wonderful to see the Reading Room buzzing with activity on Coronation Monday.

Thanks go to the Reading Room trustees and the Burden family, who decorated the main hall with bunting and laid out the tables – it wasn't long before every table was in use. Delicious cakes were on sale by the Reading Room charity, along with tea, coffee, soft drinks and snacks. More parties took place in the billiard room and the room behind the stage, and the Cricket Club staged a popular barbecue outside their bar.

Although we'd originally been hoping for a sunny day to picnic on the recreation ground, the early rain meant we switched to celebrating indoors. There was a real community spirit in the building, with people moving between tables and getting to know each other. We were also entertained by the wonderful voice of Bronte Whittle, who accompanied herself on the guitar.



The event may also have helped the village find a minibus driver and a potential new trustee for the Reading Room charity.

Affordable Homes Again

The project group met in May and were able to celebrate real progress (at last) on building eight affordable homes next to St Peter's Close. Four builders had submitted tenders, and Hastoe (the developer) is working with them on details to whittle the four down to two and then down to one – a contractor will have been chosen by the time you read this. Hastoe will then be able to bid for funding from Homes England, with a view to starting work this summer for completion late in 2024.

To be eligible to apply for one of the five rented properties, prospective tenants need to be on the Winchester Housing list, and people with a strong connection to the village will have priority when it comes to allocating the houses.

The three shared ownership homes will be sold at <https://hastoesales.com/> when they are available, again with priority given to people with a village connection. To ensure that the houses continue to be used by local people, Hastoe will retain at least a 20% stake in each property.

Curdrige Transport Crisis

Cllr Lynne Newton has talked to many of the people who used to travel on the X9 bus, and has proposed occasional expeditions to Hedge End or Whiteley shops, using Bishops Waltham's minibus. That could probably be offered two Tuesdays a month if there is demand.

The Stagecoach 49 route currently goes through the village one way and returns another, so many people can't get back to their starting point. We are working with Hampshire County Council to persuade the operator to switch to a route that visits the same stops in both directions, but we can't force such a change.

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. June is different – to give time to the auditor, the meetings will be on June 1st and 22nd.

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.

I'm writing this a week before the Annual Parish Assembly, where I hope to see many of you.

Eric Bodger

Planning Decisions and Appeals Notified by Winchester

Kyrenia, Botley Road, Curdrige SO32 2DQ

Single storey front extension forming 'link' between house & existing detached garage. Case No: 23/00452/HOU. *PERMITTED*.

Beech Tree, Calcot Lane, Curdrige SO32 2BN

Conversion of agricultural barn to dwellinghouse. Case No: 23/00359/PNACOU. *Prior Approval Details REFUSED*

The Oaks, Wangfield Lane, Curdrige SO32 2DA

Detached oak framed garage and single storey & first floor rear extension with garage conversion to create annex accommodation. Case No: 23/00203/HOU. *PERMITTED*.

Merrion, Gordon Road, Curdrige SO32 2BE

Single storey rear extension (Amended Description & Plans). Case No: 23/00011/HOU. *PERMITTED*.

The Cricketers Inn, Curdrige Lane, Curdrige SO32 2BH

Variation of Condition 3 (external sound amplifying equipment) of application reference 22/00502/FUL for the approved timber garden building (amended condition wording; amended proposal). Case No: 22/02549/FUL *PERMITTED*.

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:

1 and 22 June, 6 and 20 July, 3 August 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.