

Chair's Notes

March 2020

Cricketers Pond

The Council was disappointed when Hampshire Highways insisted on cutting two channels to drain flood water from Calcot Lane into the village pond. We are concerned that this will pollute the water in which newts and other wildlife currently thrive. However, it appears the County has a legal right to drain on to private land, and an obligation to ensure that the road does not become dangerously flooded. We are hoping that the amount of dirty water entering the pond will be low under normal weather conditions – it would be particularly damaging if water passed through the channel after a shower when the pond is low. If we suspect serious contamination, we will have the pond water tested by the Environment Agency.

The Council has asked Hampshire Highways to reinstate the channels on the other side of Calcot Lane. Flooding on that side is even more dangerous, as it affects traffic turning in from Botley Road, which has much less visual warning of a flood. We have also asked for a blocked drain further west to be cleared.

Footpaths

On a cold January day, Lynne Newton, our Footpath warden, led a working party of volunteers from Hampshire Rights of Way and from Ramblers Groups. They successfully improved Footpath 5, repairing bridges and boardwalks. Lynne took the photo, so she is not shown.

North Whiteley

Welcome to our new parishioners who have recently moved into Whiteley Meadows. Curdrige PC continues to work with Whiteley Town Council and our City Councillors to protect the agreed plan for the new development to become part of Whiteley. This is vital to support the funding of green infrastructure by Whiteley, as well as sensible integration of facilities such as new schools and playing fields.

Village Mini-bus

The council was unable to justify the cost of maintaining a mini-bus, as it has not been used for the benefit of parishioners since the Lunch Club ceased to depend on it. We have therefore sold it, and will keep the proceeds in a reserve to fund any transport needs that may arise in future.

Cemetery

Two councillors (Sian Townsend and Lynne Newton) have planted more yew saplings along the fence that separates the cemetery from Botley Road.

Eric Bodger

Planning Decisions and Appeal Notifications:

Broadlands Chapel Lane Curdridge SO32 2BB

Timber-clad barn/store at bottom of rear garden (part retrospective). Case Officer: Marge Ballinger. Case No: 19/02287/HOU. **PERMITTED**

Building At Long Acres Farm Wangfield Lane Curdridge

Change of use of agricultural building to workshop (B2) and associated operational development. Case Officer: Liz Marsden. Case No: 19/02390/FUL. **PERMITTED.**

20.33.2 Kitnocks House Wickham Road Curdridge SO32 2HG

Replacement of existing timber clad outbuilding with proposed timber clad out building. Case Officer: Curtis Badley. Case No: 19/02732/FUL. **PERMITTED**

FUTURE MEETING DATES FOR CURDRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL:

Council has resolved to make all meetings Full Council Meetings. The first meeting in each month will be 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 will be primarily for Council business, finance business and urgent Planning business as required. The next Full Council Meetings are on:

5 and 19 March, 2 and 16 April 2020.

Council Meetings start at 7pm and are held at the Reading Rooms. Meeting Agendas, including finalised meeting date, time and venue for meetings are made available on the Parish Council website www.curdridge-pc.gov.uk (where meeting cancellation notices will also be displayed).