

Chair's Notes

November 2020

Meetings

I'm writing this before the Council's Zoom meeting on 15 October, but the continuing growth of Covid-19 infections across the country means it will not be safe to return to physical meetings in the Reading Rooms in November. 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

Church Lane Tree Fall

The Parish Council has provided St Peter's Church with a new shed to replace the one that was severely damaged when a tree on the edge of the car park fell on it. Councillor Burden took delivery of the new shed and transported it to the church, where he has helped to erect it.

Green Waste

I was upset to get a leaflet purporting to "improve" the green waste collection service, when what it really said is that the free green bag service was being withdrawn in February. Instead, you can pay to have a large plastic bin. At first, this seemed to be of little advantage; Winchester will be lucky if residents' first year payments cover the cost of buying and distributing the bins, though it does bring the City into line with many other districts. Then it turned out that one of the main reasons people call the council help line is to report green bags missing after collection, which have to be replaced at significant cost. The bins will also hold much more material than the bags, whose capacity is very limited.

Bus Shelter

As I mentioned last month, the Council needs to replace the bus shelter on Botley Road, which was destroyed by a hit and run. We are evaluating quotations for a wooden shelter, and hope to roof it with tiles or shingles to match the rural nature of the village.

Parish Quay

The landlord of the *Horse and Jockey* kindly offered to repair a broken board on the jetty, which was hidden at high tide (we had to fix another earlier in the year). Because of the shortage of parking, few parishioners use the quay, but it is a valued facility for those who come to the area by boat, and the Council is keen to support businesses in our villages. A concern for our insurers is that we don't own the land on which the jetty stands – the shore belongs to Fullers brewery, and the jetty itself is on foreshore that is part of the Hamble. We are still seeking to donate the jetty to the Hamble Harbour Board to ensure its continued availability, and we are grateful to the harbourmaster for help with maintenance.

Affordable Housing

The project to build eight affordable houses on the site just north of St Peters Close is proceeding well. The check for endangered species did not find any reptile habitats or dormice, and the site layout works well with the service infrastructure across the land. The developer has had a pre-application meeting with Winchester Planning, and the steering group is meeting on October 13 to move on to a formal planning application.

Eric Bodger

Planning Decisions and Appeals Notified by Winchester

None notified since last magazine.

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:

5 November, 19 November (Zoom Online Meetings)

3 December, 17 December (format to be announced)

The Annual Parish Assembly (informal meeting for parishioners with refreshments) has been deferred and will be rescheduled when the need for social distancing ends.

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.