

Chair's Notes October 2023

Taking the Planning Vision forward

On 5 October, Planning expert Steve Tilbury will lead a two-hour training session at the Reading Room to explain how Planning policies impact on us. This meeting is open not just to Councillors but also to any Parishioners who want to help establish a vision for the villages' future. Please see the Council website for details of how to join in.

Cricketers Pond – an update

Last month, I wrote that the Parish Council had approved Cllr Sian Townsend's Plan to get the pond back to something the village can be proud of.

Now the Plan has been implemented, and we are very pleased to report that it is working!

The first phase was to fill hessian sandbags with the sand from Cllr Sian Townsend's children's redundant sandpit. These were used to create a barrier; then the space behind it was filled with silt from the pond. This created a filter for the road run-off coming into our pond down the gully that Hampshire Highways had cut through the verge. This should clean out pollutants before they enter our pond, and seems to be working successfully.

Sian and her colleagues filled more sandbags, adding the children's redundant sandpit frame to create a new bank from the sandbag wall to the outer perimeter of the pond. Cllrs Townsend and Haskins worked in the pond, with the assistance of Cllr Newton and Mrs Haskins at the edge. They created the new bank by placing parts of the wooden frame side by side, and placing sandbags at each join to



stabilise the barrier. Then Cllrs Townsend and Haskins – shovel and spade in hand -- lifted and shifted the silt and branches that were in the pond to fill in behind this barrier.

The new bank and the deeper water have been approved by the ducks.



The next phase is to fill the onion bags that villagers kindly donated with plants from Cllrs Newton's and Haskins' garden ponds and place these in the pond. This will oxygenate the water and the roots will bind the remaining silt to create a proper pond bed.

Cllrs Townsend, Haskins and Newton plan to be back in and by the pond one more time to move the remaining silt, and to plant the plants in the pond and on the newly extended banks. Please visit the pond and watch for greenery and colours appearing as the plants grow and expand.

It's on the way to being a pond our village can be proud of once more!

Council Meetings

All parishioners are very welcome at our meetings, which are held in the Reading Rooms at 7pm. You can 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.

Eric Bodger

Planning Decisions and Appeals Notified by Winchester

Belle Vue, Kitnocks Hill, Curdridge SO32 2HJ

Construction of two storey side and front extension with porch and new roof following demolition of existing porch and W/C. Case No: 23/01465/HOU. *REFUSED*.

FUTURE MEETING DATES FOR CURDRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

We hold a Full Council Meeting at 7pm on the third Thursday of each month (except in August). When necessary, there will be a Planning meeting on the first Thursday, at which other urgent Council business can be conducted if required.

The next Full Council Meetings are on:

19 October, 16 November, 14 December 2023
in the Reading Rooms.

If urgent business arises, an extra meeting might be required on 5 October and perhaps on the first Thursday of later months

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.