

Chair's Notes February 2021

Meetings

Given the resurgence of Covid-19, the Council decided to continue meeting online until the end of April 2021. We will decide at the first April meeting whether to return to physical meetings in the Reading Rooms. 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. This will be posted on the PC website in [www.curdridge-pc.gov.uk/Council Meetings Minutes.aspx](http://www.curdridge-pc.gov.uk/Council_Meetings_Minutes.aspx)

Power Supply Problems

Although power failures are less common in Curdridge than they were in the 1980s, there are still some parts of the village that suffer too many power cuts. Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks, who provide the supply to our houses, replied to a complaint from the Council saying *“I am sorry that there have been supply issues within Curdridge recently. Our depots are aware of the faults and will be carrying out further investigations to ensure our network is as resilient as it should be.”* You can phone 105 to report an outage or use the free number (08000) 72 72 82. If the issue is already known, this number will give an indication of when SSEN expect it to be fixed. You can also communicate less urgently by email to ge@ssen.co.uk

Bus Shelter

I didn't leave room for a photo of the new bus shelter last month, so here it is.

Ice on the Roads

Hampshire Highways has been dealing with cold snaps by salting main roads and “community routes” (mainly roads to schools and healthcare facilities). For the smaller roads that are not treated by County vehicles, there are bins of salt and grit around the village, which residents can use to make nearby roads passable; it only takes a tablespoon of salt per square metre to clear ice. Parish councillors have been out clearing brambles and other obstructions from around the bins, most of which are blue.

Affordable Housing

The working group continues to push ahead on this project, though it feels rather slow because of the many surveys and reports that are needed for the planning application. It is unlikely that the application can be submitted before April, but it's better to tie up all the loose ends than to risk Winchester refusing planning permission. The group met again to track progress, and to rehearse our presentation for the national event on Community-led housing being run by the Hampshire Homes Hub on 19 January.

Eric Bodger

Planning Decisions and Appeals Notified by Winchester

No further decisions have been notified since the last notes.

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:

February 4 and 18, March 4 and 18 (Zoom Online Meetings)
(the meeting format will be reviewed in April)

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 was to hold it on May 20th, but that is looking somewhat fragile now we are in a third wave of the pandemic

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 when the meeting is online. The website will also report meeting cancellations when necessary.