

Chair's Notes September 2021

Parish Council Meetings

We are now meeting again in person at the Reading Rooms. As usual, the agenda will be posted on the PC website at www.curdridge-pc.gov.uk/Agendas.aspx

The council will shortly be delivering a newsletter to go to all parishioners, so you might have had it by the time you read this. The idea is to provide a compact summary of Council activity, and get it to all residents, including those who do not subscribe to this excellent magazine.

Affordable Housing – Botley Road, next to St Peter's Close

The planning application for eight affordable homes can be found online by searching planningapps.winchester.gov.uk for 21/01787/FUL. The past 18 months have seen surveys of trees, wildlife, terrain and utilities, plus a landscape assessment that should minimize the impact of this small development on the openness of the village.

Curdridge Parish Council supports the application. We are working on the Section 106 agreement between the developer and Winchester, which will include a definition of who is eligible for the housing. Top priority will be people with a strong connection to either Curdridge or Curbridge (such as a child raised here who had to move away to find accommodation but wants to live close to family in the village). That group will probably provide all the initial occupants, but we also have to cover the longer term, and ensure that eligible people can move in when vacancies arise in years to come. We are conscious that North Whiteley will contain some affordable housing, which should provide for those with a connection to that area.

Assuming success with Planning (we have been careful to follow advice received from the planner), work should begin in 2022, with people able to move in a year later. If you are interested in applying, it is worth getting on the list as soon as possible, at: www.helptobuysouth.co.uk (for shared ownership) or www.hampshirehomechoice.org.uk (affordable rent).

North Whiteley Boundary Review

When North Whiteley was first given the go-ahead, there was a plan to move the parish boundary so that the new housing would be within Whiteley, but all interested parties need to be consulted.

Neil Cutler, deputy leader of Winchester City Council (WCC), explained the process very clearly at the August Parish Council meeting, which was also attended by Cllr Angela Clear. Both had experience of the review that created the parish of Newlands, west of Waterlooville.

The first stage is for WCC to draft terms of reference. When approved, these are given wide publicity. Next comes a consultation involving all residents in the area (Curdridge, Curbridge, North Whiteley and Whiteley, as well as other local groups such as district and parish councils. This is likely to happen in spring 2022. WCC evaluates the feedback and develops a proposal, which is subject to further consultation. This should allow any changes needed to take effect in April 2023.

Because Whiteley was conceived as a whole, many of the facilities of the town are being constructed in the north – sports pitches, schools, and green infrastructure. Whiteley Town Council has committed to maintain these services, and they need the tax from the new housing to pay those added costs. If boundaries were unchanged, Curdridge could not afford to maintain these facilities without a large increase in precept (the parish share of Council Tax), and would probably need to subcontract management to Whiteley TC. Such issues would not arise if North Whiteley joined the rest of Whiteley – the outcome preferred by both councils.

Another possibility is to set up a new parish (as at Newlands), but that leaves the problem that Whiteley TC would remain responsible for many facilities in North Whiteley, having received developer funding to provide them.

Hedge cutting

Can we once again remind property owners who have hedges that abut the highway, pavements, verges and footpaths that it is your duty to maintain these hedges and to keep them cut well back. This is for the safety of pedestrians and other road users. September is a good time to do this, as birds will have finished nesting and rearing chicks,

Eric Bodger

Planning Decisions and Appeals Notified by Winchester

North Whiteley Urban Extension Botley Road Curbridge Hampshire (three applications)

Temporary permission for show homes and sales office. Case Officer: Robert Green. Case No: 21/01342/FUL. **PERMITTED.**

Temporary permission for show homes and sales office (5 years). Case Officer: Robert Green. Case No: 21/01343/FUL. **PERMITTED.**

Phase 1 B1 Land to the North of Bridge Farm North Whiteley – Discharge of condition 8 of planning application 18/02606/REM (As Built SAP Data and Water Calculator for plots 1-14, 18-19, 31-32, 41-50, 65-73, 128-133, 135, 136, 138, 141-157). Case No. 21/01171/DIC.
PERMITTED

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 covers Council business, finance business and urgent Planning business as required. The next Full Council Meetings are on:

2 and 16 September, 7 and 21 October, 4 and 18 November in the Reading Rooms.

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.