



Curdridge Parish Council News

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CHAIR'S NOTES DECEMBER 2017

At our October meeting we discussed the future maintenance of **Cricketer's Pond**. We put this on our agenda because we discovered that it was costing the PC rather more than we anticipated keeping the pond topped up with water over the summer. Marianne Small, who has put a great deal of effort in to restoring and maintaining the pond in the past, expressed concern that we might be about to sell or 'close' the pond. I assured her this was not the case. We discussed the costs and how they might be reduced. One option might be to run the pond more specifically for the benefit of wildlife. The Wild life Trust had advised that this would mean less water would be required. However, it was also mean removing the large carp from the pond. Low water levels might also lead to unwelcome smells from the

exposed mud. In terms of costs, we noted that this year had been particularly dry at times and therefore the amount of water used might be higher than would be usual. We also discussed the value of the pond to the village as an amenity where people come to feed the ducks and watch the fish. Our conclusion was that we will keep the pond as it is and continue to monitor water costs. We also asked the Parish Council Manager to contact the water company again to review the tariff being charged.

NEW PARISH COUNCILLOR

Following the resignation of Councillor Cross, I am now pleased to report and to welcome **Councillor Steve Wallin** to the PC. Steve lives on Hillside.

HEDGE CUTTING

Can we please remind those who own roadside hedges within their properties that it is your duty to maintain these hedges and keep them well cut back from public pavements and highways.

Now is an ideal time to cut them back, as the 'Bird Nesting Season' is officially from February until August (Natural England) and it is recommended that vegetation works (tree or hedge cutting) or site clearance should be done outside of the nesting season. However, in reality the nesting period *may* start before this and extend beyond it, in some cases.

Kevan Bundell

Next Planning, Highway & Licensing Meetings (if sufficient business) 4 January, 1 February and 1 March 2018

Full Council Meetings 18 Jan, 15 Feb and 15 March 2018

Council Meetings start at 7pm and are held at the Reading Rooms.

Contact details for the Council are published in this magazine. Approved Minutes are available on the Parish Council website.