

Chair's Notes

December 2018

The Pond

As reported last month, there had been vandalism and theft at the Cricketers' Pond, and your Council has been working to make it safe again. Botley Fencing gave a competitive quotation to do this work, and it has now been completed to a very high standard, as you can see in the photograph. We are grateful to Councillor Newton for taking this photograph, and for getting the subjects' permission to print it.

Council Assets

Councillors toured the Parish in November, checking the state of the places and things the PC is responsible for. The goal is to ensure that things like the War Memorial at the station, the Allotment Recreation, Cemetery, the Pound, and various benches are not going to put people in danger. We have decided to remove the very low bench near Kitnocks House, which served a now-vanished bus stop. Action is needed for the Parish Quay at the Horse and Jockey, and options are to be considered at the November Council meeting.

By the time you read this, we should have accepted quotations for improvements needed to the gate and fencing at the Cemetery, and be taking action to make the paths better. If you have concerns about benches, the pond, or any other council property, please let me know.

The Roads

Hampshire Highways has included the flooding at Station Hill in its *Operation Resilience* plans. They are also seeking ways to make a safe standing place at the bus stops near the Cricketers pub. The available land isn't wide enough for a standard footpath, but they understand how unsatisfactory the area is now, and are committed to improving it.

At the meeting with Rob Humby and his Highway safety team in September, the officers were surprised that no yellow posts had been installed at the junction of Reading Room Lane and the A334. This was meant to be included in the improvements made a couple of years back, and Council is continuing to keep up the pressure on this and other omissions, including the lack of a Give Way sign on the NW-bound approach to Lockhams Road at the Triangle.

Signs are on order for three village gates, reminding drivers to slow down. Although we recognize it won't have much effect on the more crazy drivers, it does remind the thoughtful majority that they're entering a village. As soon as Hampshire has installed the new socket in Lockhams Road, we will take delivery of the new Speed Limit Reminder sign, and our maintenance contractor will move it around the parish to cover the main five trouble spots. In addition, the old sign will remain on Wangfield Lane.

Eric Bodger

Planning Decisions

Land At Reading Room Lane Curdrige Hampshire - The Change of Use of land from Agriculture Use to Equestrian Use for private use and the erection of a timber stable block comprising 3 stables, a tack room and store. Case Officer: Robert Green. Case No: 18/01574/FUL.

PERMITTED.

Hambleside Botley Road Curbridge Southampton Hampshire SO30 2HB - Extension of existing property. Case Officer: Lisa Booth. Case No: 18/01720/ENQ. **ADVICE GIVEN.**

Land Rear Of West View Outlands Lane Curdrige Hampshire - Demolition of existing garage and hobby/snooker room and replacement with two storey dwelling (on same foot print as the hobby room). Case Officer: Robert Green. Case No: 18/01900/FUL. **REFUSED.**

Home Farm Reading Room Lane Curdrige SO32 2HE - Side Extension, conversion of garage into habitable accommodation and construction of a new detached garage. Case Officer: Curtis Badley. Case No: 18/02425/HOU. **WITHDRAWN.**

Future meeting dates for Curdrige Parish Council

Planning, Highway & Licensing Committee Meetings (if there is sufficient business):

6 December 2018, 10 January 2019, 7 February 2019

Full Council Meetings:

20 December 2018, 24 January 2019, 21 February 2019

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.