

Curdridge Parish Council

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MINUTES OF FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF CURDRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT 7.00 PM ON THURSDAY 16 MARCH 2023 IN THE BILLIARD ROOM AT CURDRIDGE READING ROOM CURDRIDGE

Present:

Cllr Eric Bodger (Chairman)

Cllr Larry Burden

Cllr Lynne Newton

In attendance:

Jenny Whittle (Parish Council Manager - PCM)

Cllr Hugh Lumby (County Councillor)

5 members of public

Public Session

Cricketers Pub (revised Planning Application) – residents queried whether Council had been notified of the revision to the application. The PCM confirmed Council had not been notified, but Council's former objection is still logged and remains unchanged..

23.67 Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Carkeet, Haskins, Hedger and Townsend. District Councillors had also sent apologies.

23.68 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Burden declared an interest in item 23.71.1.

23.69 To receive reports from the County Councillor, District Councillors and Hampshire Constabulary Representative, if applicable (usually given at the end of each month)

County Councillor, Hugh Lumby provided the following written report:

"1.2023/24 budget approved Hampshire County Council's £2.6bn spending plans for 2023/24 have been approved, as set out in my report last month. Its council tax precept for the financial year beginning 1 April 2023, will increase by a total of 4.99%, of which 2% will go specifically towards adults' social care, in line with Government policy. This equates to an annual charge of £1,460.25 for a Band D property – an increase of £69.45 per year or approximately £1.34 a week. Leader of the County Council, Councillor Rob Humby, said: "Each year, the County Council is tested to the limits in continuing to deliver a balanced budget, which is required by law. Planning for this upcoming financial year has been no different, and we have had to navigate further intense pressures resulting from the cost-of-living crisis, inflation and workforce pressures which are pushing up costs, and growing demand in key areas such as social care for the most vulnerable children and adults in our communities – which far outweighs available Government funding. "We are also acutely aware of the very difficult decisions Hampshire residents face in their own household budgets to make ends meet, but reluctantly, in order to help deliver a balanced budget for 2023/24, we have no other choice but to increase the council tax precept. This is a decision we have not taken lightly. But even after this increase, we are still left with a £50.8 million shortfall in our revenue budget which we will have to fill using our reserves – built to buffer this and next year's anticipated budget shortfalls." The increase will generate £37m of vital extra income towards the delivery of crucial, high performing services to the people of Hampshire in 2023/24, and still means that Hampshire has one of the lowest council tax precepts of any county in England.

2. New school in Whiteley for children with severe learning difficulties Its great news that Hampshire County Council's application for a new special free school in Whiteley has been provisionally approved by the Department for Education (DfE). The application will now move to a second stage and, if finally approved, will pave the way for a new 125-place, co-educational school for 4-16 year olds with Severe Learning Disabilities. Land has been made available and feasibility work is currently ongoing. The plans will now proceed to the second stage of the application process, which will see academy trusts invited to apply to sponsor the school. I have called on Winchester City Council to amend its draft local plan to reflect the proposed use (the last draft showed this as residential). At the time of the implementation of the SEN Reforms in 2014, HCC was supporting around 5,000 children with special educational needs; the figure is now 15,000 children.

3. School admissions More than 97 per cent of parents in Hampshire have been offered a place for their child at one of their three preferences for a secondary school in September 2023, with 90 per cent offered a place at their first preference school. The County Council received 15,400 on-time applications this year – an increase of 418 applications compared to the number received for places in September 2022 (14,982). Parents and carers who have not secured a place at one of their preferred secondary schools this year are urged to please visit HCC's website for advice and guidance on their options. Offers for primary schools are due to go out to parents on 17 April 2023.

4. Parish lengthsman scheme The County Council's parish lengthsman scheme has been maintained for the coming financial year. The scheme funds a local 'lengthsman' to carry out straightforward and low risk maintenance activities on footways, highways, and rights of way. The work mainly involves jobs that can have a big impact, such as ditch clearing, hedge cutting and sign cleaning. The scheme has since been successful in giving 186 local parish and town councils an opportunity to prioritise and deliver their own small scale highway maintenance works that will be of high value locally.

5. Grants to fight rural crime The Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, Donna Jones, has announced a fund to award grants to help tackle rural crime, supporting initiatives to reduce rural crime or support victims. The application window closes at 2pm on Friday 21 April 2023 and successful applications will be announced in mid to late May 2023. Applications can be made at <https://www.hampshire-pcc.gov.uk/safer-together/funding/apply-for-funding>.

6. Consultation on post-16 transport policy The County Council has launched its annual consultation on the Post-16 Transport Policy. This policy outlines the provision of transport for young people over the age of 16 with special needs or disabilities, who require additional support to access education or training suitable to their needs. The consultation includes an opportunity to comment on the proposed increase in the parental contribution by 27.1%, in line with the increased costs of running the service. This increase is being driven by national driver shortages, a limited number of transport operators on the market, and an increase in fuel prices. Families in receipt of income based free school meals and certain means-tested benefits will not be required to pay an annual charge. The consultation will run for a period of six weeks until 11:59pm on Sunday 2 April, please visit the Hampshire County Council website for details.

Councillor Hugh Lumby, Meon Valley Division”

The District Councillors had provided the following written report:

“WCC meetings for March 2023

Cabinet Thu 16th @ 09.30am

Cabinet Housing Tue 21st @ 10am

All the above committee meetings along with their agendas can be found on the WCC website (www.Winchester.gov.uk), members of the public can attend/listen to the meetings, if you wish to speak you need to register 3 working days before the meeting takes place. All meetings are audio streamed live and the link is on the WCC website, after the meeting is held they are uploaded onto BBC iPlayer.

1) IMPORTANT REMINDER FOR THE MAY 2023 ELECTIONS

You are now required to show photographic identification at polling stations before you can be given a ballot paper. This will affect all voters across the district of Winchester who vote in person or by proxy, at the next local election on Thursday 4 May 2023.

If you choose to vote by proxy, then the person who you have trusted to vote on your behalf will have to take their own photographic identification to be issued a ballot paper.

Postal voters will not be affected and will be issued with their postal ballot papers as usual.

Voters must bring a suitable form of photographic ID to their polling station.

Acceptable photographic identification

Only original documents will be accepted; scanned images or copies will not be accepted.

You can still use your photo ID if it's out of date, as long as it looks like you.

The name on your ID should be the same name you used to register to vote.

If you do not have any of the accepted forms of photographic identification, and you want to vote at the polling station, you will need to apply for a free Voter Authority Certificate.

You will be able to apply for a Voter Authority Certificate online, by paper application form or in person from Monday 16 January 2023. The City Council recommends that you apply for a Voter Authority Certificate in good time.

The deadline to apply for a Voter Authority Certificate in time for the local elections on Thursday 4 May 2023 is 5pm on Tuesday 25 April 2023.

Voters who do not produce valid photographic Identification or a Voter Authority Certificate will not be able to vote on polling day. Our team at the polling station have no discretion to allow you to vote so please ensure you have an acceptable form of valid photographic identification or a Voter Authority Certificate with you.

2) Garden Waste Reminder

Renewals for the council's Garden Waste scheme 2023/24 year are now open. For those subscribing for the first time we will endeavour to deliver a new bin within four weeks of a subscription being set up. Collections for all new subscriptions and renewals will start week commencing 6 March 2023, please refer to your 2022/23 waste collection calendar for the actual collection day.

If you pay by direct debit, the payment is due to come out of your account on 15 March 2023

For any further enquiries please contact our Customer service team at:

customerservice@winchester.gov.uk

Winchester City Council, City Offices, Colebrook Street, Winchester Tel: 01962 840 222

Monday - Thursday 8.30am to 5.00pm, Friday 8.30am to 4.30pm

3) King's Coronation Plans

With the Coronation of His Majesty The King taking place on Saturday 6th May next year, WCC are now inviting residents to submit applications for street party road closures.

They are expecting a lot of applications so its advised that residents by 3rd February to ensure it's processed in time! For more information, and to find out how to apply, visit:

www.winchester.gov.uk/organising-an-event-in-winchester/special-event-road-closures

4) City Council Budget for 2023/24

A summary of the key aspects of the new budget is at Annex A.

5) Money Saving Advice

Winchester are building a page full of tips and resources to help people save money on their energy bills this winter.

Advice can be found at www.winchester.gov.uk/energy-efficiency

6) Reports to City Councillors

Some issues we have had reported from residents:

Traffic accidents at lights on Whiteley Way – following a meeting with Cllrs and Hampshire Highways new road markings is now in place

Secondary School places – some children unable to get place in catchment schools

Please don't hesitate to contact us should you need any further details or have any issues that need following up.

Councillors Achwal, Fern and Small - Thursday 16th March 2023"

23.70 To approve the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting on 2 March 2023

Resolved to approve the Minutes of 2 March 2023. ACTION: CHAIR/PCM.

23.71 Planning Applications received from Winchester City Council, Hampshire County Council, Eastleigh Borough Council or River Hamble Harbour Authority for decision/response

23.71.1 Merrion Gordon Road Curdrige Hampshire SO32 2BE - Single storey rear extension (Amended Description _ Plans). Case Officer: Cameron Finch. Case No: 23/00011/HOU. (Comments to WCC by 24 February 2023).

Residents from Gordon Road spoke to object to this planning application on the basis of over-development; overlooking and loss of light.

Members discuss this application.

Resolved TO OBJECT on the grounds of over-development and overlooking of neighbours on both sides and the loss of light to neighbouring properties and lighting impacting on bats and wildlife.

Cllr Burden abstained in conjunction with his declaration of interest. The PCM advised Members that because this meeting was quorate it did not matter whether Members voted or abstained, as long as there was a clear majority vote. ACTION: PCM.

23.71.2 North Whiteley Urban Extension Botley Road Curbridge Hampshire - Reserved Matters Application (appearance, landscaping, layout & scale) for the construction of 70 dwellings and associated works to include access roads, cycleways, footpaths, car parking, open space, soft landscape, cycle and bin storage facilities and all associated ancillary development, pursuant to outline planning permission 15/00485/OUT (Parcel 11). Case Officer: Amy Winch. Case No: 22/02505/REM. (Comments to WCC by 27 March 2023).

Resolved to MAKE NO COMMENT.

23.71.3 Lorentz Botley Road Curbridge Southampton Hampshire SO30 2HB - A new four-bedroom, chalet bungalow with split level ground floor plan, detached family dwelling located on the expansive gardens of, and adjacent to Lorentz (previously Lonsdale) with associated garden amenity and parking facilities. Case Officer: Nicola Clayton. Case No: 23/00286/OUT. (Comments to WCC by 27 March 2023).

Members discussed this application.

Resolved TO OBJECT on the grounds of over-development of this site. ACTION: PCM.

23.71.4 (CPC NOT CONSULTED BY WCC) - Land To The Northeast Of Greenclose Wangfield Lane Curdrige Hampshire - Change of use of existing agricultural barn to create three dwellinghouses. Case Officer: Rose Chapman. Case No: 23/00405/PNACOU. (Comments to WCC by 27 March 2023).

A neighbour spoke to object to this application on the grounds of overlooking, noise, traffic and the dangerous access to this site.

Members discussed this application.

Resolved to object on the grounds that this barn is not suitable for conversion as it only has tin walls and would require extensive works to be carried out and the total combined floor space of all the larger dwellinghouses developed cannot exceed 465 square metres, whereas this development totals 492 square metres. Also this barn has not been used for agriculture purposes for several years and has instead been used for B8 storage of white goods for which Winchester City Council had an enforcement case. This property also has a dangerous access onto the highway (on a bend). Members request that if WCC's Planning Officer is minded to permit this application that it be referred to the Planning Committee.

Members also requested that WCC please consider consulting Council on any Permitted Development Applications within the parish. ACTION: PCM.

23.72 Planning Decisions and Appeals notified by Winchester City Council/HCC - to be noted

There were no new planning decisions for the parish notified by WCC.

23.73 Finance

23.73.1 To approve Finance Report dated 16 March 2023 and cheque signing & payments.

Resolved to approve the Finance Report dated 16 March and cheque signing. ACTION: PCM.

23.73.2 Cemetery/Glebe Field – to review Council’s proposal to consider installing a viewing area and bench between the Cemetery and Glebe Field.

Members discussed this item.

Resolved not to install a view area and bench between the Cemetery and Glebe Field, as it is no longer required following the renovation of the Cemetery and installation of a new path and seating area.

23.73.3 Cemetery – to review Council’s proposal to consider providing an alternative option to a Memorial Wall within the Cemetery.

Members discussed this item.

Resolved that Council will allow uniform plaques on stakes to be erected behind the retaining gravel board (along the rear yew tree boundary), with the size and specification of the plaques to be approved at a future meeting when more Members are present. ACTION: PCM.

23.73.4 Speed Limit Reminder Signs – to consider quotation for two new SLR Signs for the parish (from the same provider that provided SLR signs following insurance claim for storm damaged SLR Sign).

Members discussed the quotation provided by the same supplier of the previous SLR Signs (who had previously proven to be very competitive). It was noted that due to inflation there was an increase of £418 since the last purchase.

Resolved to use the ear-marked funds for speed limitation (traffic calming) within the parish to purchase two Speed Limit Reminder Signs of the same specification as the two most recently purchased, but without the Solar Kits, as Members felt this was unnecessary in the locations proposed for these SLR Signs. PCM to arrange purchase from Westcotec, but to refer back to Council if they will not allow the Solar Kits to be removed from quotation provided. ACTION: PCM.

23.74 Correspondence & Telecommunications

23.74.1 Winchester City Council – notification of Planning Committee’s proposed consideration of Planning Application for Land At Locks Farm Botley Road Bishops Waltham Hampshire - Solar farm including new access road, permissive footpath and associated development (May Affect a Public Right of Way; May Affect Setting of Listed Buildings) (Revised Description & Revised Details). **Noted.**

23.74.2 Bishops Waltham Parish Council – information regarding proposed Events Planning Training Event in April 2023. **The PCM advised that she will be attending this free event if possible; Members noted this and would let Bishops Waltham Parish Council know if they wished to attend.**

23.74.3 Winchester City Council - District Wide Energy Efficiency Measures - Warmer Homes Consortium. **Noted.**

23.74.4 Hampshire County Council - Return of Functions Notice Traffic Management and On Street Parking Notifications. **Noted.**

23.74.5 Winchester City Council – Parish Connect March 2023. **Noted.**

23.74.6 Steve Tilbury Planning Consultant – first draft of Curdridge Parish Local Plan Policies Document for initial comments/observations.

Members were generally happy with the document. The PCM suggested that perhaps the planning policy breakdown could be a separate schedule, so that it was easier for resident to refer to. Members agreed.

Resolved that the PCM will write to Steve Tilbury to request that the Planning Policy breakdowns be isolated, so that they can be referred to in isolation. ACTION: PCM.

23.75 Kings Coronation – to review requests received by Members and decide upon action (if applicable)

Members had been approached by residents to enquire whether the parish was doing an event. Members discussed the options proposed.

Resolved that:

- i) PCM will liaise with the Reading Room Charity to book the whole of the Reading Rooms (and Recreation Ground) on Bank Holiday Monday, 8 May 2023, to host a Picnic in the Park for parishioners, with the use of the Reading Room toilets and kitchen and the halls, should the weather be bad. ACTION PCM;**
- ii) PCM will write to Cllr Lumby to establish whether there is any grant funding available for Coronation Events. ACTION PCM;**
- iii) PCM will contact Curdrige Primary School to establish the estimated number of pupils at the school at the time of the King's Coronation, to enable Council to consider whether to purchase each pupil a coronation pen. ACTION: PCM;**
- iv) PCM will contact WCC to establish what the number of electors for the parish will be following the boundary revision, to enable Council to consider whether to purchase small coronation momentos. ACTION: PCM;**
- v) Cllr Burden to liaise with the Trustees of the Reading Room Charity to see whether they would wish to organise a tea/coffee/cake stall on this day to help raise funds for the Reading Room Charity. ACTION: CLLR BURDEN.**
- vi) Once the Reading Room booking is confirmed the PCM will prepare a flyer/invitation for this event to be approved and hand delivered by Members to each household, this could also include a request on behalf of the Reading Room for volunteers/cakes for their fund raising stall (if required). ACTION: PCM.**

23.76 To note Parish Clerk's Update Report (previously circulated to Members) – noted.

23.77 To receive reports from Parish Councillors

Wickham Road (deteriorating drain covers) – HCC Highways have marked several of the drains for repair. Members will monitor this and chase up if not done soon.

HCC County Councillor Grant Applications – Cllr Lumby had advised the new grants application system opens in June. PCM to place this item on a future Agenda for Council to consider projects to obtain grant funding for. NB: each County Councillor is given a limit of £8,000 for the whole of their area.

23.78 To move Exempt Business

To consider passing a resolution under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 in respect of the following items of business on the grounds that it is likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act

23.79 To receive WCC's update reports on Enforcement cases (if applicable) and decide upon any action required.

There were no new matters arising.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.40 PM.