

Curdridge Parish Council

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**MINUTES OF FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF CURDRIDGE PARISH
COUNCIL HELD AT 7.00 PM ON THURSDAY 19 OCTOBER 2017
IN THE BILLIARD ROOM AT CURDRIDGE READING ROOM
CURDRIDGE**

Present:

Cllr K Bundell (Chairman)
Cllr E Bodger (Vice Chairman)
Cllr K Bull
Cllr J Furby
Cllr R Kemp
Cllr L Newton

In attendance:

Jenny Whittle (Parish Clerk)
Cllr Roger Huxstep (District Councillor)

Public Session

Marianne Small raised that the water leak on Station Hill still had not been fixed by HCC. The PCM had repeatedly reported this to HCC, who had confirmed they are dealing with this matter; she will chase up HCC again. **ACTION: PCM.**

17.315 Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Achwal and Bentote who were on leave.

17.316 To receive Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

17.317 To approve Minutes of Full Council Meeting on 21 September 2017

Resolved to approve the Minutes of 21 September as drafted for signing. ACTION: CHAIR.

17.318 To receive reports from the County Councillor, District Councillors and Hampshire Constabulary Representative (if applicable)

Cllr Huxstep gave a brief verbal report:

Speeding/noisy motorbikes – he advised that the Police & Crime Commissioner has agreed to attend a meeting relating to this problem on the A32. Once the meeting is booked he recommends that other parishes attend to raise their concerns about this problem on their local roads as well.

Cllr Huxstep's written report had been circulated to Members.

17.319 Planning Applications received from Winchester City Council, Hampshire County Council or the River Hamble Harbour Authority for decision/response

17.319.1 Home Farm Reading Room Lane Curdridge SO32 2HE – removal of conditions 4 from planning application 05/00494/FUL. Case Officer: Liz Marsden. Case No: 17/02185/FUL.

Members discussed this application and generally felt that this property should remain with an agricultural tie to protect the rural nature of the village.

Resolved TO OBJECT to this application, as Members felt that this property should be kept agricultural to retain the remaining rural nature of Curdridge, especially as this property is highly visible from two main roads on the entrance to the village. It was felt that if the agricultural condition attached to the property was removed it would allow for any commercial business to be adopted on the property, which could impact adversely on the vicinity with additional traffic, noise and the nature, look and visibility of the site. ACTION: PCM.

17.319.2 Landing Place Botley Road Curbridge SO30 2HB - Ground and second storey extension to entrance area, raising of eaves height, replacement mansard roof with new front and rear dormers. Case Officer: Nicola Clayton. Case No: 17/02343/HOU.

Resolved DO NOT OBJECT.

Members requested the Clerk when writing to WCC to request that conditions be attached to the temporary access on site, that there should be no stopping or parking on the main road and that there should be “temporary access” signage and the main road should be kept clean. They also wanted WCC to ensure that this access is only temporary. ACTION: PCM.

17.319.3 Construction of a bypass for Botley, providing a connection from Station Hill (A334/A3051 junction) to Woodhouse Lane together with associated improvements/enabling works to Woodhouse Lane at Land at Woodhouse Lane and to the North and East of Botley Village, Eastleigh. Case Officer: Rob Storey. Case Ref: PLAN/RS/EAH002 WRH008 – to ratify the additional points having been added to Curdridge Parish Council’s previous consultation response, that the scheme should include increased parking for Botley Station and a new access from Bottings Industrial Estate onto the new Bypass and to also consider the written response received from Winchester City Council advising that these things could not be included.

Resolved to note the additions to Council’s consultation response and to merely note WCC’s response, as Members felt that the by-pass project was very important to the parish and should not be jeopardised. Members were hopeful that these matters might be addressed at some time in the future. Members did however request the Clerk to go back and request that the speed limit reduction proposed to be considered for Station Hill be considered as soon as possible to support the bypass. ACTION: PCM.

17.320 Finance

17.320.1 To approve the Finance Report dated 19 October 2017 and cheque signing & payments and Quarterly Report

Resolved to approve the Finance Report, cheque signing & payments and Quarterly Report. ACTION: PCM.

17.321 Cricketer’s Pond (parish pond) – to consider the future of the pond and any associated maintenance costs in readiness for 2017-2018 budget setting

17.321 Cricketer’s Pond -

The Chair introduced this item and advised that the pond had required filling several times throughout the past year at a significant cost. He had consulted the Wildlife Trust and they had advised that if the pond was managed as a wildlife pond (with no fish) then the water levels could be allowed to fluctuate. They also advised that a drying out of such a pond every few years was beneficial to wildlife.

Marianne Small passed Council a copy of the Commons Registration Act 1965 Decision confirming that ownership of the pond had been granted to Curdridge Parish Council. As a former Parish Councillor who had carried out a vast amount of maintenance work to the pond over many years, she felt that the pond should remain within the ownership of the parish

council and be kept as a fish/wild duck pond, as was intended. She felt that the costs associated with topping up the water in the pond were insignificant, given the value of this asset and the benefit to the community. The Chair reassured her that Council had no intention of losing ownership of the pond, or of “closing the pond”, but did need to consider maintenance costs.

Members discussed this matter and agreed that the pond was one of the remaining parish assets regularly enjoyed by many residents (and those passing through the village). The options to be considered were keeping the pond as a fish/wild duck pond and continuing to top up the water when required or removing all of the fish and wild ducks and converting the pond to a wildlife pond (whereby the water levels would be allowed to fluctuate naturally with the seasons). Members reiterated that residents enjoyed the pond as it was and regularly came to feed the fish and wild ducks. Council also felt they would not be able to stop the public from putting fish into the pond (as they had been doing) and could not stop the wild ducks from visiting the pond and killing any wildlife. Members were also concerned that when the pond water levels fall the pond starts to smell badly.

Resolved to retain the pond as a fish and duck pond and to continue to fill the pond with water (in a controlled manner) when necessary. Members thanked Cllr Newton for monitoring/maintaining the pond water levels on behalf of Council and for carrying out this duty in such an efficient manner. Members requested the PCM to contact the new water company to establish whether the water tariff could be reviewed with a view to reducing costs. ACTION: PCM/CLLR NEWTON.

17.322 Parish Quay improvements – to receive an update from Cllr Kemp, to include the proposed plans for the improvement scheme.

Cllr Kemp provided Members with a copy of the plan outlining the initial proposals. He advised that he had consulted Fullers Brewery and the Harbour Master who were both keen to financially support this project. Members did not wish for Council to take responsibility for overseeing this project, but would endorse the proposed improvements (subject to the addition of safety measures, such as a hand rail) and to cost restrictions being imposed.

Resolved that Councillor Kemp would prepare comprehensive revised plans (incorporating safety measures recommended) and would then obtain three written quotations and present these to Council, in order that Council could consider the benefit of the proposed scheme to the parish and what element of the ear-marked funding would be approved towards the final project. Members noted that the sum of grant funding given by Council would reflect the benefit of the project to parishioners, as it was felt that the majority of funding should come from the Harbour Master, given that this project would benefit River Hamble users far more than parishioners. ACTION: CLLR KEMP.

17.323 Correspondence

17.323.1 Hampshire County Council - Draft position statement regarding Boorley Green traffic management, following public consultation. **Cllr Bodger confirmed HCC has promised to make baseline measurements before doing annual monitoring.**

17.323.2 Curdridge Primary School – notification that a Curdridge Primary School Local Community Governor vacancy has arisen and welcoming applications. **Noted.**

17.323.3 Eastleigh Ramblers Association – request to consider supporting their consultation response regarding the proposed Uplands Farm Development. **Members requested the PCM to write confirming Council’s support for Ramblers Association response. ACTION: PCM.**

17.323.4 Hampshire ALC – notification that the South Downs Local Plan - final consultation started 10 October 2017. **Noted.**

17.323.5 WCC – notification that the Magdalen Hill Cemetery, Winchester extension has been consecrated. The new extension will provide burial spaces for the next 40 years for a variety of faiths. **Noted.**

17.323.6 Curdridge Reading Rooms & Recreation Ground – letter of thanks for the grant funding received from Curdridge Parish Council. **Noted.**

17.323.7 Southern Parishes Group – to note revised Constitution. **Noted.**

17.323.8 Hamble River Valley Forum – Annual Report 2016 to 2017. **Noted.**

17.323.9 Hampshire ALC – notification of match funding grant scheme for Superfast Broadband. **Cllr Bodger to check current plans for service provision within the parish.**

17.324 To note Parish Council Manager's Update Report (previously circulated to Members) – Noted.

17.325 To receive reports from Parish Councillors

HALC/NALC Affiliation fees – Cllr Bodger will attend HALC's AGM where they are expected to increase our annual affiliation fees by £13 for HALC and £5 for NALC.

Horse and Jockey (proposed footpath) – Cllr Newton advised that she has set up a site meeting with a National Trust representative and Ian Underdown from Hamble PC to discuss the proposed route of the footpath and associated land ownership, in order that they could liaise with land owners. She would keep Council updated.

Affordable Housing – Action Hampshire/HARRAH had arranged in consultation with the Chair had arranged a meeting to discuss this matter further at 7pm on Friday, 10 November 2017 in the Reading Rooms. All Members were invited to attend.

Highways (hedge cutting) – the Chair enquired whether Cllr Newton had sent out letters requesting residents with hedges overgrowing onto the highway to cut them back, as it had been reported by several residents that the hedge belonging to the property on the junction of Chapel Lane/Lockhams Road was very overgrown. Cllr Newton confirmed she was in the process of doing this and would include this property. **ACTION: CLLR NEWTON.**

HALC 70th Anniversary – Cllr Bundell had attended this event.

Cllr Bull resignation – Cllr Bull advised that he is struggling with increased work commitments and feels (due to the interest in the current Parish Councillor vacancy) that it would be a good time for him to resign and allow someone else to fill this role at the current time. He hopes that when he is nearer retirement he can return as a Parish Councillor. He confirmed he is happy to continue assisting Cllr Newton with pond monitoring/maintenance. Members were sad to receive his resignation, but understood that his work commitments must take priority.

ACTION: PCM.

17.326 Parish Councillor Vacancy - to discuss any queries arising, following receipt of applications for this vacancy (if applicable) to enable a decision to be made under Exempt Business

There were no queries or other matters arising. The two applicants for this vacancy were thanked for attending this and previous meetings.

16.327 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

16.327.1 Parish Councillor Vacancy – to discuss applications and decide upon the successful candidate – this vacancy was discussed and applicant Steve Wallin was the successful candidate.

16.327.2 To receive an update on open Enforcement cases and decide upon any action required - Enforcement updates were discussed.

The meeting closed at 9.09 pm.