

## Curdridge Parish Council

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### MINUTES OF FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF CURDRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT 7.00 PM ON THURSDAY 21 JANUARY 2021 AS AN ONLINE ZOOM MEETING DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS LOCKDOWN

#### Present:

Cllr Eric Bodger (Chairman)

Cllr Steve Wallin (Vice Chairman)

Cllr Larry Burden

Cllr Debbie Caister (from Item 21.18)

Cllr Rory Kemp

Cllr Lynne Newton

Cllr Sian Townsend

#### In attendance:

Jenny Whittle (Parish Council Manager - PCM)

Cllr Roger Huxstep (County Councillor)

Cllr Vivian Achwal (District Councillor)

Cllr Roger Bentote (District Councillor)

#### Public Session

There were no matters arising.

#### 21.14 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Caister will be slightly late.

#### 21.15 To receive Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

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

Cllr Huxstep reported:

**COVID-19** - the pandemic is still very much with us. Professor Chris Whitty's persistent advice is for each of us to assume that we are carrying the virus and therefore to behave accordingly – obey the rules. For up to date, data please see:

[Hampshire COVID-19 data | Health and social care | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](https://hants.gov.uk/news/2021/01/15/hants-covid-19-data) and for the Hampshire COVID-19 weekly datapack: [Name of report Detail of report \(hants.gov.uk\)](#). The good news is that for Winchester district the confirmed cases per 100,000 of the population was 48 on 15<sup>th</sup> (last Friday) and it had fallen to 12 the day before yesterday (Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> inst.).

**Extended times for older people to use free bus passes** - Hampshire County Council is continuing to support older residents during the Coronavirus outbreak by removing the restriction on using free Older Person's Bus Passes before 9:30am from Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2021. The start time restrictions will be lifted so people can use their bus pass at any time. This temporary change to the scheme is intended to continue until schools reopen to all students. This will also help Hampshire residents take up COVID vaccinations when they are offered if they have early morning appointments, and to travel at quieter times for essential

journeys such as those for food shopping. Residents who have a disabled person's bus pass can already use these at any time of day, any day of the week.

Cllr Bentote reported:

Our City Council officers deserve your thanks as they continue to work on behalf of everyone in the district. It may not be the usual services, but they have been there for businesses and residents in need as we reach the 10 month mark of Covid. The website continues to be a very useful reference point and for those without access to the internet the telephone reception has continued. With many officers working from home the speed of response may have been slower, but it is seen as being important that everyone can access the council.

The big problem ahead is funding as there has been a loss of income and much given out as grants – not all of it being refunded by central government. Our cabinet and officers are looking to the future and how businesses may be resurrected or in many cases obliged to change premises or ways of conducting their work. For some this pandemic may provide a great opportunity but others may never be able to return to their previous output.

As your district councillors we continue to push for recognition of all the district not just Winchester City itself. Whiteley and North Whiteley are both very important in providing business opportunities and new housing. Curdridge may feel overshadowed by the proximity of all this development and resent the extra traffic flow too so we will try to get thought given to the needs of this community.

Cllr Achwal reminded Members about the new garden waste service and that the Mayor's Awards are soon.

#### **21.17 To approve the Minutes of Full Council Meeting on 7 January 2021**

***Resolved to approve the Minutes of 7 January for signing. ACTION: CHAIR/PCM.***

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

21.18.1 North Whiteley Urban Extension Botley Road Curbridge Hampshire - Reserved matters submission for electricity substation. Case Officer: Simon Avery. Case No: 21/00060/REM.

Members discussed this application.

***Resolved DO NOT OBJECT. ACTION: PCM.***

#### **21.19 Planning Decisions and Appeals notified by Winchester City Council/HCC - to be noted**

There were no new Planning Decisions for Curdridge parish notified in WCC's schedules of planning decisions received.

#### **21.20 Finance**

21.20.1 To approve the Finance Report dated 21 January 2021, Quarterly Report, cheque signing & payments.

***Resolved to approve the Finance Reports, cheque signing and payments, subject to the addition of WCC's urgent invoice for Dog Bin Emptying (when received). ACTION: PCM.***

21.20.2 To review and approve the various Grounds Maintenance, Lengthsman and Speed Limit Reminder Tender Documents prior to inviting tenders from local companies.

Members discussed the various tender documents.

***Resolved to approve the tender documents for circulation to contractors subject to:***

- i) Grounds Maintenance Tender Document being revised as follows:***

- **Cemetery - internal hedges only being cut once annually at the end of the bird nesting season (end of Summer), all other minimal hedge trimming during bird nesting season to be by hand.**
  - **Cemetery – to remove the staining of all internal/external fences, the gate and archway. Members wish these to be left in their natural state and to be replaced when required.**
  - **Allotment Recreation - to cut raised bund, left hand ditch (when viewing from the car park) and halfway down into the bottom section (from Allotment fence down towards A334 Wickham Road) once annually during August and for grass clipping to be removed.**
- ii) Lengthsman Tender Document being revised as follows:**
- **Add mowing 2 foot strip around Wangfield Lane bench and a path out to roadside three times per year during growing season.**
  - **Add strimming 2 foot strip around grit bin in Wangfield Lane once annually in late Autumn (to allow Winter access).**
  - **Remove Cemetery benches from staining rota; Members would prefer for these benches to be left in their natural state until it is necessary to carry out maintenance.**

**ACTION: PCM.**

### **21.21 Correspondence**

21.21.1 Southern Water – advising that they are still open for business during the current Covid-19 restrictions. **Noted.**

21.21.2 Hampshire County Council – advising that new Covid-19 vaccination centres have been launched across Hampshire. **Noted;**

21.21.3 Hampshire County Council – Covid-19 Vaccinations Questions and Answers for stakeholders. NB: Residents will be contacted when it is their turn to receive the vaccination. **Noted.**

21.21.4 Hampshire County Council – advising all residents to be vigilant, as there are now many scams taking place. Coronavirus-related scams include:

- Sales of fake products such as face masks, supplements, anti-virus kits and sanitisers, which may be harmful or simply never arrive
- Bogus healthcare workers who try to gain access to your home by claiming to offer testing for COVID-19
- People pretending to be from charities offering to do shopping or carry out cleansing tasks
- Emails asking for donations to the NHS.

The HSAB Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information Hub has information on where to get help and find out more information on COVID-19: <https://www.hampshiresab.org.uk/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-public-and-professionals> **Noted.**

21.21.5 Hampshire Homes Hub – invitation for free online event - Community-Led Housing - Tuesday 19th January. Also advising that there will be a presentation on the proposed Affordable Housing site in Curdridge. You can book your place by visiting:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/turning-dreams-into-homes-the-art-of-the-possible-tickets-129717032135> **Noted.** Cllr Bodger reported that this event had gone very well and that the Curdridge Affordable Housing presentation had been extremely well received.

### **21.22 To note Parish Council Manager's Update Report (previously circulated to Members)**

Speed Limit Reminder (proposed new location Botley Road) – the PCM advised that HCC had responded to Council's request to advise that HCC only own a very narrow verge in the

location suggested by Council. Members requested the PCM to go back to HCC to enquire whether a new SLR socket could be placed on the verge they own. **ACTION: PCM.**  
Cricketers Pond (water disconnection request) – the PCM advised Council that Business Stream had acknowledged Council’s request to disconnect supply and had asked for Council to confirm that they were happy with “permanent” disconnection. Members were not happy for the water to be disconnected permanently, as the pond water gets very low in Summer and the pond begins to smell. Cllr Newton advised that she had spoken to Kevin Bull (a neighbour) about this and he had advised that the works to rectify the adverse water flow should not be too expensive.

***Resolved that Cllr Newton would obtain an urgent quote from Kevin Bull’s company to rectify the water flow problems at the pond tap and would ask him how much the alternative bowser water supply system he had investigated would also cost. This will be referred back to Council once Cllr Newton has obtained these quotations. ACTION: CLLR NEWTON/PCM.***

Allotment Recreation (new shed) – the PCM had updated Members on the outcome of her recent site visit with the contractor. Cllr Newton had recommended the shed be relocated further away from the Allotment Recreation access gate (with the door facing towards the car park) to avoid the bund and drainage pipes. Members agreed.

## **21.23 To receive reports from Parish Councillors**

Fly tipping of tree branches (Church Lane) – Members were aware this had been reported to WCC several times already (from Monday onwards), but requested the PCM to email WCC.

**ACTION: PCM.**

Wangfield Lane (traffic calming) – Members noted that the traffic, potholes and road flooding had become far worse during the current traffic diversion (due to the Botley Road closure). Cllr Townsend enquired whether CIL funding could be used for traffic calming measures in Wangfield Lane. The Chair and PCM advised that because Hampshire County Council had advised that traffic calming measures were not warranted in this location it would be impossible to obtain grant funding. Cllr Bodger felt that Council will have to wait until the Botley Bypass is completed to re-evaluate this situation.

Speed Limit Reminder Sign (Lockhams Road) – Cllr Townsend enquired whether Cllr Bodger had been able to download the Lockhams Road data. Cllr Bodger had visited the site several times, but had been unable to download data due to his computer’s capabilities. He will do this ASAP. **ACTION: CLLR BODGER.**

A334 Wickham Road (large pothole/broken drain outside of Brooklyn Cottage) – Cllr Burden was aware this had been reported to HCC by several people at Christmas, but it still has not been repaired. Members requested the PCM to chase HCC Highways up and to copy Cllr Huxstep in on the email. **ACTION: PCM.**

Reading Room Play Area – Cllr Newton had received complaints about the drain cover being removed/dangerous in the playground. Cllr Burden advised that this problem had now hopefully been resolved, but it was possible the drain cover had deliberately been lifted to use the location as a drop off point. However, the drain cover was now sealed in place and had not been lifted recently. Cllr Huxstep requested Cllr Burden to get the Reading Room Charity to email him the details of this matter, so that the authorities could be notified of this possible drop off location. **ACTION: CLLR BURDEN.**

Members then discussed the play area safety and maintenance generally. Cllr Bodger queried whether Council could consider leasing the play area. The PCM said she would need to contact Hampshire ALC for legal advice, but advised Members they needed to be aware that Council would then have to arrange daily/weekly safety inspections of the play area to ensure the play equipment remains safe for use and Council would also have to continue to arrange the formal annual play area inspections and carry out any urgent works highlighted by the annual reports, to ensure the play area remains safe and to avoid public liability claims (which are quite common for Councils). Members felt it would be too difficult for Council to arrange inspections, as Council does not have a groundsman and therefore felt it would be better for

Council to continue to support the Reading Room Charity with a sizeable annual grant and to circulate all grant information and encourage the Reading Room Charity to apply for grants, such a CIL Funding (as previously supplied/recommended to them). Cllr Achwal will forward the most recent WCC CIL Funding information for Council to forward to the Reading Room Charity again. **ACTION: CLLR ACHWAL/PCM.**

Vicarage/Chapel Lane (multiple pot-holes) – Members and residents had noted that both of these roads have multiple pot holes and need inspecting by HCC Highways to ensure public safety. PCM to write to HCC Highways to request a safety inspection of both. **ACTION: PCM.**

#### **21.24 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

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

21.26 To consider possible local nominations for the Mayor's Award.

**THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.42PM.**