

Curdridge Parish Council

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**MINUTES OF FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF CURDRIDGE PARISH
COUNCIL HELD AT 7.00 PM ON THURSDAY 23 JUNE 2022
IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM AT CURDRIDGE READING ROOM CURDRIDGE**

Present:

Cllr Eric Bodger (Chairman)

Cllr Paul Haskins (Vice Chairman)

Cllr Larry Burden

Cllr Jonathan Carkeet

Cllr Lynne Newton

Cllr Sian Townsend (from item 22.145.3)

In attendance:

Jenny Whittle (Parish Council Manager - PCM)

Public Session

22.141 Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Cllr Hedger, Cllr Lumby and Cllr Achwal.

22.142 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

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

There were no further updates at this stage.

22.144 To approve the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting on 8 June 2022

Resolved to approve the Minutes of 8 June for signing. ACTION: CHAIR/PCM.

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

22.145.1 Land West of Yew Trees Harmsworth Farm Botley Road Curbridge Hampshire - Construction of dwelling. Case Officer: Nicola Clayton. Case No: 22/00158/OUT.

Members discussed this application and were concerned that this site is being continually developed with additional properties.

Resolved DO NOT OBJECT, subject to WCC noting that Council is only supportive of (this) one additional dwelling on Harmsworth Farm and requests that WCC consider a condition to restrict future development, as Council is concerned about the overall volume of development on this site. ACTION: PCM.

22.145.2 The winning and working of up to 230,000 tonnes of soft sand with phased working and restoration through backfilling with up to 435,000 tonnes of clean inert waste/materials (inclusive of reinstatement of material from original extraction), associated internal access routes, plant and infrastructure at Five Oaks Farm, Winchester Road, Shedfield, SO32 2HS (application number 20/01483/HCS). Following the submission of a planning application on 7 July 2020 to which an EIA applies, notice is hereby given that further information and clarification has been provided to Hampshire County Council. The Information includes further information on Air Quality, Noise & Vibration, Water Environment, Traffic & Transport, Landscape & Visual and other clarification matters (The documents are on the Application

Document tab dated 26 May 2022)

<https://planning.hants.gov.uk/Planning/Display/20/01483/HCS>.

Members discussed this application and felt the revisions proposed still do not change Councils decision.

Resolved to reiterate Council's former objection to this application as the proposed revisions do not address the concerns Council raised previously:

“Though the application is described as “quarrying”, it appears to be a landfill application, given that the plan is to dump materials occupying at least twice the volume of the sand extracted. “https://www.simetric.co.uk/si_materials.htm” gives the density of wet, uncompacted sand as 1.922, which is higher than clay (1.83) and most other types of earth (1.2 to 1.7). This means that the weight of the backfill needs to be LESS than that of the sand extracted to avoid raising the surface of the land.

Council agrees with WCC's objection that the development falls under the remit of Policy MTRA4, which allows development that has an operational need for a countryside location, subject to its impact on the character and landscape of the area and on neighbouring uses. Should there be a proven operational need for sand to be extracted from this site, we propose that the backfill be limited to the volume of sand removed. As well as bringing the scope of the project into line with the permission applied for, this would reduce the impact on local roads by a third, and potentially reduce dust nuisance by half. Even so, there is a need to ameliorate the impact of the additional HGV movements in the area that already suffer congestion. A suitable mitigation measure would be to fund traffic lights at the A334/B2177 junction. To ensure compliance with limitation of the operation to quarrying and equivalent backfill, there should be a condition that the volume of material imported should not exceed the Page 3 of 4 volume removed. This would be enforced by ensuring that the average height of the land should not rise by more than 20mm. This is a generous concession, given that it represents 200 cubic metres per hectare, equivalent to over 300 to 400 tonnes of soil per hectare.

Council also strongly supports the Landscape Officer's comments “The landscape officer considers that, despite the proposed screening with mounds and fences along the eastern edge of the site, the magnitude of change (albeit of short duration) combined with the proximity and sensitivity of the nearby residential receptors, particularly people living adjacent to the east of the site and at the northern end of St Anne's Lane, would result in significant harm to residential amenity.” ACTION: PCM.

Councillor Townsend arrived.

22.145.3 1 Myrtle Cottage Gordon Road Curdridge Hampshire SO32 2BE - UPVC Conservatory erected in 2012 at the back of the house. Case Officer: Legal. Case No: 22/01196/LDP.

Members discussed this application.

Resolved DO NOT OBJECT, but it was to be noted that no supporting documentation was available on WCC's website for Council to review. ACTION: PCM.

22.145.4 North Whiteley Urban Extension Botley Road Curbridge Hampshire - Reserved Matters Application (Appearance, Landscape, Layout & Scale) for the construction of 59 dwellings, 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 33. Case Officer: Amy Winch. Case No: 22/00908/REM.

Resolved to MAKE NO COMMENT.

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

22.146.1 Land To The Rear Of Uplands Cottage Botley Road Curdridge Hampshire - New Access onto Botley Road (B3035). Case Officer: Jordan Wiseman. Case No: 22/00290/FUL. **PERMITTED. Noted.**

22.146.2 North Whiteley Urban Extension Botley Road Curbridge Hampshire - Reserved matters application for the construction of 255 dwellings and associated infrastructure including access roads, cycleways, footpaths, car parking, amenity open space, landscape planting, cycle and bin storage facilities and all associated ancillary development, pursuant to outline planning permission 15/00485/OUT. Case Officer: Amy Winch. Case No: 21/02590/REM. **PERMITTED. Noted.**

22.147 Finance

22.147.1 To approve the Finance Report dated 23 June 2022 and cheque signing & payments. **Resolved to approve the Finance Report and cheque signing/payments. ACTION: PCM.**

22.147.2 Curdridge Parish Council Cemetery – to consider/approve quotations to renovate and extend current gravel pathway and relocate two benches onto new gravel plinths.

The PCM advised Members that she had gone out to over six companies to achieve tenders for this contract. Several had not responded at all. Three companies had visited the site with the PCM and agreed to provide quotations, but only one company had provided a quotation. However, Members felt confident that J Smith Construction who had provided the quotation had been competitive historically with quotations and had been reliable in carrying out contracts to a very good standard.

Resolved to approve J Smith Construction Services Ltd's quotation in the sum of £4500 plus VAT for labour and materials. ACTION: PCM.

22.147.3 To discuss and approve Council responses to Section 1 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2021/22 Form 3 (Local Councils, Internal Drainage Boards and other Small Authorities in England).

The PCM and Members went through Council's responses to Section 1.

Resolved to approve Council responses to Section 1 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2021-2022 Form 3. ACTION: PCM.

22.147.4 To discuss and approve the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2021/22 Form 3 (Local Councils, Internal Drainage Boards and other Small Authorities in England).

Members discussed the return.

Resolved to approve the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2021/22 Form 3 (Local Councils, Internal Drainage Boards and other Small Authorities in England).

ACTION: PCM.

22.147.5 Grant Application – Home Start £250.

Resolved to make a grant donation in the sum of £250. ACTION: PCM.

22.147.6 Cemetery – to approve Rob Edwards' quotation for topping up sunken graves in the sum of £390 (£200 labour plus materials).

Resolved to approve Rob Edwards' quotation in the total sum of £390 for labour and materials, to top up all of the sunken graves and seed over levelled graves with grass seed. ACTION: PCM.

22.148 Correspondence

22.148.1 HCC – advising Hampshire County Council passenger transport consultation has gone live today and will close on 24 July. The consultation information and online response form can be found at this link: www.hants.gov.uk/passenger-transport-consultation. Please send any queries to passenger.transport.consultation@hants.gov.uk.

Members discussed this consultation and felt they would like to raise concerns about the insufficient bus service and increasing costs and inadequate network of footpaths and pavements to encourage residents not to use their cars so often. Council would also like to support HCC's 20 is Plenty consultation scheme, but this could not be a blanket policy within

Curdridge, as some roads within the parish would not be suited to a 20 mph speed limit. The Chair said that having completed this consultation it was not at all user friendly for organisations and would not allow Council to respond adequately as a collective organisation. He felt it would therefore be more beneficial for all Members to go online and do this short survey.

Resolved that Members will all independently complete this passenger transport consultation. The PCM will email HCC to advise that Members will be responding to this consultation independently, as it is felt that Council cannot give a collective response to some questions raised within the consultation. However, Council would like to raise concerns about the insufficient bus service within the parish and the general high cost of using public transport, as well as the inadequate network of footpaths and pavements within the parish to enable Council to encourage residents not to use their cars so often. Council would also like to support HCC's 20 is Plenty consultation scheme, but strongly feels this could not be a blanket 20 mph policy within Curdridge, as some roads within the parish would not be suited to a 20 mph speed limit. However, Members feel such roads would still vastly benefit from having suitably reduced speed limits. ACTION: ALL MEMBERS/PCM.

22.148.2 Winchester City Council - Southampton to London Replacement Pipeline: Update number 7 - Environmental Investment Programme. **Noted.**

22.148.3 20s Plenty for Hampshire Group – requesting all of their supportive parishes and local councils to please respond to HCC's current consultation on LTP4 (Local Transport Plan 4). The consultation closes on 26th June and can be accessed here <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/localtransportplan/haveyoursay>.

Noted: see item 22.148.1 above.

22.148.4 Hampshire County Council - Invitation to comment on Hampshire County Council's draft Catchment Management Plans. **Noted.**

22.148.5 Hampshire ALC – June Newsletter. **Noted.**

22.148.6 Intelligent Alternatives Limited - 21/01391/FUL - solar farm at Locks Farm (amended application) – advising of the following revisions to plans, should Council be consulted again:

- Changed the inverter technology and moved the battery storage element southwards to further reduce noise impacts
- Altered the design of the access point to reduce the required hedgerow removal from 130m to 40m (approx)
- Quantified the biodiversity net gain (22.27% habitat gain and 42.84% hedgerow gain)
- Added a new permissive path, at the request of The Ramblers
- Provided a range of clarifications and amended reports/assessments relating to highways, landscape, heritage, noise, energy and climate change issues. **Noted, Council will await contact from WCC (if applicable).**

22.148.7 Botley Parish Action Group – Land at Holly Tree Farm consultation response for information only. **Noted.**

22.149 North Whiteley Governance Review - to agree a recommendation for responding to the survey in the Governance Review

The Chair advised Members that the deferred Governance Review meeting is due to take place soon and will include electing 4 North Whiteley residents to be on the panel. He said he is extremely concerned about the consultation options: 1 – a new parish of North Whiteley; 2 – Whiteley Town Council to take in North Whiteley; 3 – to move the parish boundary South and Curdridge Parish Council to take in North Whiteley. He believes option 3 would obliterate Curdridge parish as it currently stands, so that it would no longer be a rural village and asked Members supporting him placing a newsletter article and an article on the website encouraging as many residents as possible to respond and advising them that Council's preferred option for response would be Option 2.

Resolved to endorse the Chair's Parish Magazine article encouraging as many residents as possible to respond to the North Whiteley Governance Review public consultation

and advising residents that Council's preferred option for response would be Option 2 (for Whiteley Town Council to take in North Whiteley), in order to protect Curdridge parish from a vast increase in property density/population. ACTION: CLLR BODGER/PCM.

22.150 Cricketers Pond – future maintenance programme

The PCM had circulated relevant historical emails between Council and HCC and in particular HCC's email stating their legal position:

"Hampshire Highways (HH) have received a complaint regarding flooding of Calcot Lane adjacent to Cricketers Pond. The flooding is being caused as a result of a drainage grip being filled in by the Parish Council. HH are aware that the Parish is concerned about contamination to the pond, however the issue of safety to road users is a more significant issue. HH have received advice from their legal colleagues who have advised the following:

"HH have a statutory right to drain into 'inland waters' under s.299 of the HA 1980 or by now almost certainly a prescriptive right to do so (assuming that we were draining through some sort of feature) by virtue of long use.

I think therefore the best course of action would be to contact the parish and inform that their works constitute interference with highway drainage and that we will be urgently re-instating these to protect the highway.

The issue the Parish have raised about water quality is for the EA to police and not the parish who have no power to declare that our right to drain is forfeit by virtue of water quality."

Any attempt by the Parish to prevent HH from carrying out the works or interference with the drainage in future could mean that should any accident occur as a result of flooding, then HH would look to direct liability to the Parish."

Members discussed the future management and maintenance of the Cricketers Pond and all agreed that they would like to improve and protect this facility for the benefit of parishioners. Water quality/pollution testing was discussed and the PCM reminded Members of the Environment Agency's previous advice in this regard:

"The Environment Agency advised that the only other option would have been East Hampshire Catchment Party, but they only test water for Nitrates and Phosphates, which is not applicable here, as Council requires testing for Hydro-Carbon and may have to see if they can obtain this service privately if they do not entrust this decision to HCC."

Resolved that Cllr Carkeet will investigate the possibility of getting an independent water quality/pollution test from a private provider which includes testing for Hydro-Carbon and will report back to Council once this information has been sought. Council will then review this item later in the year when other parish projects will have been brought to a close. ACTION: CLLR CARKEET.

22.151 Parish Quay – review of Licence in favour of the brewery

Incoming parish councillors had raised concerns regarding the very low Licence income for Curdridge Parish Council's land at the Parish Quay (Horse & Jockey). Cllr Carkeet had kindly investigated the legal obligations of both parties, in order that Council can review the current Licence income. He had sought the advice of his company's legal team who had identified that this land was "Common Land" and therefore should not be fenced or closed off to the public and had raised concerns regarding the Horse & Jockey landlord having placed large flower boxes across the entrance to Council's land. Former Parish Councillors had verbally agreed that the landlord could re-surface and revise the layout of the Horse & Jockey car park (including Council's land), but had not agreed to any signage that had appeared in recent months or the blocking off of the car park and Council's land.

Resolved that Cllr Carkeet will request his legal team to investigate and draft a letter to the brewery for Council to consider/approve at a future Full Council Meeting. ACTION: CLLR CARKETT/PCM.

22.152 To note Parish Clerk's Update Report (previously circulated to Members)

Allotment Recreation Site Meeting (re ditch infilling project) – It was decided that the PCM and Members would visit the Allotment Recreation after the next Full Council Meeting on 7 July to discuss this project briefly. **ACTION: ALL/PCM.**

Parish Council Defibrillator (at Cricketers Pub) – Members asked for an update. The PCM has been awaiting the outcome of the planning application for the new outbuilding, as it was proposed that the defibrillator could be installed on the outside of the new outbuilding and connected to the pub's electricity supply, with Council being responsible for future maintenance/renewal of the defibrillator. Cllr Townsend agreed to speak to the landlords of the pub to ensure they were still happy with this course of action. **ACTION: CLLR TOWNSEND.**

22.153 To receive reports from Parish Councillors

Reading Room Car Park (noise/nuisance) – Cllr Burden reported that youths have been meeting in the car park in their cars and carrying out stunts such as “drifting” and causing a noise nuisance. This has been reported to the Police who are going to monitor the car park.

Curdridge Parish Council Duck Sign (removed from Botley Road B3035) – Cllr Newton reported this item. The PCM had checked the site and the sign has been fully removed and not knocked down or vandalised. She has written to HCC Highways to query whether they have removed this sign.

Curdridge Show (car parking assistants) – Cllr Bodger reminded Members that he is helping out with the car park for Curdridge Show and they could still do with additional volunteers. Members noted this and would try to help out.

North Whiteley (new planning application presentation) – it was agreed that this item would be at the start of the next meeting at 7 pm, as some Members would struggle to start earlier.

ACTION: PCM TO EMAIL APPLICANT'S PLANNING CONSULTANT.

22.154 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

22.155 To receive WCC's update reports on Enforcement cases and decide upon any action required. Noted.

22.156 Reading Room maintenance – this item was deferred to the next meeting. **ACTION: PCM.**

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.30 PM.