

Curdridge Parish Council

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**MINUTES OF FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF CURDRIDGE PARISH
COUNCIL HELD AT 7.00 PM ON THURSDAY 8 AUGUST 2019
IN THE BILLIARD ROOM AT CURDRIDGE READING ROOM
CURDRIDGE**

Present:

Cllr Eric Bodger (Chairman)
Cllr Steve Wallin (Vice Chairman)
Cllr Larry Burden
Cllr Debbie Caister
Cllr Rory Kemp
Cllr Lynne Newton
Cllr Sian Townsend

In attendance:

Jenny Whittle (Parish Council Manager)

Public Session

The owner of Fairthorne Cottage, Chapel Lane spoke to advise Council that the builders (Imperial Homes) had been lighting fires on the site of Hill View to burn plastic. The most recent fire of plastic (lit approx..3 weeks ago) had to be put out by Imperial Homes using soil, as it was causing high level air pollution. Winchester City Council Environmental Health had visited and felt that the fire had been put out sufficiently. However, it is still smouldering and causing low level toxic fumes. Members were aware of this situation, as two of them had witnessed the high level air pollution coming from the site. Members requested the PCM to write to WCC Environmental Health and Planning Enforcement to notify them that Councillors had witnessed the toxic fumes coming from this site and were concerned to note that the fire which had been urgently put out nearly three weeks back was still smouldering. Members also wished WCC to investigate what is going to be done about the land contamination caused, as the plastic from the fire was now under the earth used to put the fire out. **ACTION: PCM.**

19.101 Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Cllr Wallin. County and District Councillors Roger Huxstep, Vivian Achwal, Roger Bentote and Jonathan Fern had also sent apologies.

19.102 To receive Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

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

There were no new reports due to the Summer recess period.

19.104 To approve Minutes of Planning, Highways & Licensing Committee Meeting dated 6 June 2019

Resolved to approve the Minutes of 6 June, as drafted, for signing. ACTION: CHAIR.

19.105 To approve/adopt revised Planning, Highways & Licensing Committee Terms of Reference (following the revision of all Planning, Highways & Licensing Committee Meetings to Full Council Meetings)

Cllr Newton proposed, Cllr Townsend seconded and Members voted unanimously to approve the revised Terms of Reference as drafted. ACTION: PCM.

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

19.106.1 Hambleside, Botley Road, Curbridge, SO30 2HB – Construction of a two storey dwelling with 5 bedrooms and new access. Case Officer: Nicola Clayton. Case No: 19/01565/OUT.

This Outline Planning Application had been received after the Agenda had been circulated, but required a response prior to the next meeting. Therefore the committee was keen to consider it as an urgent case. Members discussed the plans and felt that the scheme was a good design and that there were no planning objections.

Resolved DO NOT OBJECT, subject to Winchester City Council applying all their general planning rules when consider this application. If the Planning Officer is minded to object to this Planning Application please may it be referred to the Planning Committee. ACTION: PCM.

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

19.107.1 Bridge House Botley Road Curbridge SO30 2HB - Replacement dwelling together with associated access and landscaping. Case Officer: Lisa Booth. Case No: 19/00360/FUL.

Application WITHDRAWN. Noted.

19.107.2 Poplars Farm Curdridge Lane Curdridge SO32 2BH - Change of use of buildings to B2 (General Industrial) (retrospective). Case Officer: Rose Lister. Case No: 19/00540/FUL.

Application PERMITTED. Noted.

19.107.3 The Barn Harmsworth Farm Botley Road Curbridge Southampton Hampshire - Proposed erection of a detached building for use as a fitness suite, that is incidental to enjoyment of the dwelling house. Case No: 17/02085/LDP. ***An appeal has been made to the Secretary of State against the decision of Winchester City Council to refuse/refused to grant a certificate of lawful use or development. Noted.***

19.108 To approve Minutes of Full Council Meeting dated 18 July 2019

Resolved to approve the Minutes of 18 July, as drafted, for signing. ACTION: PCM.

19.109 Finance

19.109.1 To approve the Finance Report dated 8 August 2019 and cheque signing & payments.

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

19.109.2 Lloyds Bank Account – update and decision regarding Financial Services Compensation Scheme limit of £85,000 for combined eligible deposits

The PCM had circulated a report on the outcome of her investigations with the parish council's insurance company and Lloyds Bank Plc. Members felt that although the risk was extremely low, they would still like to investigate opening another deposit bank account with either Nationwide or Natwest at Hedge End.

Resolved that:

- i) the sum of £25,000 will be withdrawn from the parish council's Lloyds Bank Account to be invested in an alternative instant access deposit account with another bank (in Hedge End) to ensure that the Lloyds Bank Account balance does not exceed the Financial Services Compensation Scheme limit;***

- ii) ***the PCM will visit the Nationwide Building Society first to establish whether they can open a deposit account for the parish council, which will have only two signatories and where any funds withdrawn can only be transferred to the parish council's Lloyds Bank Account.***
- iii) ***If Nationwide is unable to arrange an account then the PCM will visit the Natwest Bank to arrange for this account to be opened.***
- iv) ***If the account cannot be set up where withdrawal funds can be transferred directly to the Parish Council's Lloyds Bank Plc account, then (withdrawal) cheques or BACS payments to go into the Lloyds Bank Plc account must first be approved by Full Council (and if by cheque these must be signed by two signatories in the usual manner). ACTION: PCM.***

19.109.3 Wangfield Lane Bench – update and decision regarding maintenance

Members had been keen to know about the insurance implications relating to this bench, as Council had by default taken over ownership of the bench, but HCC owned the land it was placed upon. The PCM had sought advice from the parish council's insurance company to clarify this position, as per Council's resolution. The insurer had advised "...if you're responsible for the maintenance, then this would fall under your Public Liability. Any damage or injury to a third party arising from the bench would be covered by your insurance, and then anything arising from the surrounding area should then be covered under HCC's cover.

Members were happy with this outcome, as HCC would have no reason to default on their insurance responsibilities (as above) and therefore Council was happy to continue with the maintenance of this bench.

Resolved that the PCM would approach Leylandii and Lawns for a quote to cut a two feet strip of grass (and any weeds and brambles that may grow) around the bench and to the roadside three times per year in the main growing season. ACTION: PCM.

19.109.4 Cemetery – to consider Cemetery weed clearance surrounding Yew trees quote and Glebe Field (fallen tree damage) fence repair quote

Members had considered this matter further since their request to obtain a quote.

Resolved that Council would arrange for the Councillor working party (that is due to be set up soon) to also carry out this weeding, so that the money saved could be used on alternative projects within the parish that Councillors could not undertake themselves. ACTION: PCM.

19.109.5 Grant Application – Citizens Advice Winchester District £350.00

Members discussed this application.

Resolved to make a grant donation in the sum of £250.00 to Citizens Advice Winchester District. ACTION: PCM.

19.110 Parish Quay (wooden jetty) – update and decision regarding future ownership and maintenance of the jetty

Members discussed the history of this case. As the jetty is requiring much more maintenance recently and is coming to the end of its life expectancy Council had investigated the possibility of replacing the jetty with something a more substantial (given the rise in the tides and increased use from the river etc). Having received quotes it became evident that to replace this jetty with a new one that had substantial footings it was going to cost several thousand pounds. As Council only owns the wooden jetty and not the land or river it is located on, it approached both the brewery (who own the Horse & Jockey) and the Harbour Board (who manage the river) to establish whether they would be prepared to make equal contributions. Lengthy negotiations between all parties did not prove successful. Members then randomly monitored the jetty to see who it is now being used by and identified that it is mainly users coming up the river and using the jetty to access the pub (and very few local parishioners - as used to be the case). Consequently, Council decided to offer the jetty to the Harbour Board,

as it mainly benefits river users and they manage the river in which it is situated and so would have more powers to maintain public access/usage of the facility. The Harbour Board came back to Council to advise that due to the land ownership issues, as the land the jetty is on would not be transferred to them, they would not be prepared to accept the risks associated with this. Council consequently decided to establish the legal position with Council's insurers given the risk. Council's insurers advised that although they would be prepared to insure for public liability, if it could be proven that the jetty was deemed to be the cause of damage or injury to a third party (as a result of negligence on behalf of the Council) the under-writers were not prepared to insure for any material damage whatsoever, i.e. if the jetty was vandalised or destroyed in any manner because the land it was on was not owned by the Council. Members were very concerned having received this advice that the jetty was requiring more and more maintenance and the Council would be unable to justify replacing it given that if the new jetty was damaged it would not be insured.

Resolved that (because Council is anxious to maintain the wooden jetty for the benefit of the public, without exposing Council to the unnecessary risks associated with owning/maintaining and being unable to fully insure the jetty), Council would write to the brewery (who own the land the jetty is on and can therefore insure the jetty fully) to offer the jetty to the brewery for the sum of £1, subject to them paying all legal costs associated with the preparation of the legal Transfer Deed and the Transfer Deed including a formal condition that the jetty will be maintained by them at all times in a good state of repair for use by pedestrians over their land and all public access via the river. ACTION: PCM.

19.111 Motion by Councillor Newton to submit a Representation Form for inclusion up to the A27 around the Hamble under the Coastal Path Representations

Resolved to approve and submit the form drafted by Cllrs Bodger and Newton for inclusion up to the A27 around the Hamble. ACTION: CLLR BODGER.

19.112 To review Hampshire County Council's Grass Cutting Plans provided to Council with a view to reducing crossovers in service provision within the parish

Members discussed these cutting schedules.

Resolved that:

- i) Council will respond to HCC to advise that Council currently cuts the grass verges at the Cricketers Pond and The Pound under the Lengthsman Scheme and therefore they can remove these from their cutting schedule, subject to review should the Lengthsman Scheme be discontinued. ACTION: PCM.***
- ii) Council will write to WCC to advise that the grass cutting of the turning circle at the bottom of Outlands Lane was not being undertaken;***
- iii) Council will write to Hampshire Highways to say that the sign implementing the old access-only TRO is no longer needed, as the road is now a dead end. ACTION: PCM.***
- iv) Council will review the grass cutting schedule in the parish when setting the budget this year, as grass cuts at the pond could be reduced to 3-4 times over the Summer, although the Pound cutting should remain unchanged, due to the dangerous nature of the junction. ACTION: PCM.***
- v) Members will monitor other areas within the parish to ensure cutting is being undertaken in accordance with these schedules. ACTION: ALL.***

19.113 Correspondence

19.113.1 Winchester City Council – notification of Winchester City (Parish of Curdridge)(Part of Footpath 9 Curdridge) Public Path Diversion Order 2019. **Noted.**

19.113.2 NALC – Consultation on Policy E-Briefing PC8-19 – Draft Data Sharing Code of Practice. Please send any comments you may have directly to chris.borg@nalc.gov.uk no later than 5.00pm on Friday 16th August 2019. **Noted.**

19.113.3 Whiteley Town Council – copy email sent to Winchester City Council requesting a meeting (between all parties) to start facilitating the revision of the Whiteley/Curdridge parish boundaries. **Noted.**

19.114 To note Parish Council Manager's Update Report (previously circulated to Members)

Cricketers Pond (missing duck sign reinstatement) – Having received no further response from HCC since their email advising they had wrongly removed the sign and would replace it some month ago, Cllr Newton felt she would like to visit the depot to collect the sign and replace it herself. **ACTION: CLLR NEWTON.**

Wheelie Bin (Speed Limit) Stickers – Cllr Newton said she would also ask the depot if they had any of these stickers left and would report back to Council. The PCM will also chase up WCC again to see if they produce these stickers (as Eastleigh Borough Council used to). **ACTION: PCM.**

Curdridge Lane (Bus Stops) – Members felt that as both Council and HCC had failed to get Greene King to consider selling a small strip of land at the Cricketers Pub, to enable a bus stop to be built on that side of the road that this should be dropped. However, Members were still keen for the bus stop on the other side of the road to be improved to ensure public safety and request the PCM to chase up HCC for an update on their proposed improvements. **ACTION: PCM.**

19.115 To receive reports from Parish Councillors

New Speed Limit Reminder Camera (post fitting) – Cllr Bodger had received delivery of the new SLR. It was therefore agreed that the new post on Botley Road (at the Pound) needed to be fitted ASAP to get the camera up and running ASAP. Members agreed to set up a working party to install this post on the weekend of 24/25 August, with either Cllr Burden or Cllr Kemp providing their trailer to transport the equipment. Members requested the PCM to circulate an email to Members, in order that Members can liaise to arrange a suitable date/time for everyone. The PCM will also attach a copy of the current SLR Schedule. **ACTION: PCM.**

Speedwatch (Lockhams Road) – Speedwatch had now started at Lockhams Road, where it had been noted that speeding traffic was a severe issue. It is hoped that there will be another new volunteer for this location soon too.

Reading Room Lane (blocked drains) – Cllr Burden advised that the road drain in the dip (alongside the recreation ground ditch) is blocked with debris, causing the water in their ditch to back up. The PCM will advise HCC Highways and request a visit by their guzzler). **ACTION: PCM.**

Highways Sign (men working) – Cllr Kemp had had a sign thrown into his garden. The PCM will write to HCC Highways to advise them of this and request them to collect it. **ACTION: PCM.**

Kitnocks Hill (bench) – Cllr Kemp had received an enquiry as to whether Council would reconsider selling some of the land the bench is on to the neighbour. Members did not wish to review their decision not to sell the land.

19.116 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

19.117.1 To receive an update on open Enforcement cases and decide upon any action required.

WCC's updated Open Enforcement Cases Schedule was discussed.

The meeting closed at 9.08 pm.