



Curdridge Parish Council News

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CHAIR'S NOTES

JANUARY 2018

**Chair's Notes - January
2018**

I am pleased to report - in case you hadn't noticed - that we have now got '**village gates**' installed on most of the roads into the village. The hope is that this will encourage motorists to slow down a little as they pass through.

You may also have noticed that the **village pound** (where stray animals were once impounded), on the junction of the B3051 and The Plantation, has been tidied up. Thanks to Councillors Lynne Newton and Rory Kemp and to Peter Newton for doing this for us.

Some of you will have heard that, in the light of the major housing developments around Boorley Green there was a proposal to block **Wangfield Lane** at the river. The PC suggested blocking Maddoxford Lane instead. However, Highways have decided to put the matter on hold for the time being. They will instead monitor traffic over the next few years, as the houses are built, and then decide what needs to be done.

Meanwhile, the **Botley by-pass** - from King's Corner/ Pinkmead to Woodhouse Lane - has been granted planning permission. However, the necessary funds still have to be raised so there is no start date as yet.

The water leak from the top of **Station Hill** is once again

being investigated by Highways following the PC's repeated lobbying. Some say the water comes from an old water pipe. Southern Water deny it. Highways are now thinking in terms of how to stop it running down the side of the road where, in winter, it dangerously freezes.

Following Councillor Kevin Bull's resignation from the PC I am pleased to welcome **Sian Townsend** to the fold. Sian has been a leading organiser of the Curdridge Show in the last couple of years and we all look forward to her working with us. Our thanks also to Kevin, who has been a valued member of the team who brought a particular practicality to a number of our projects.

Happy New Year !

Kevan Bundell

HEDGE CUTTING

Can we please remind those who own roadside hedges within their properties that it is your duty to maintain these hedges and keep them well cut back from public pavements and highways.

Now is an ideal time to cut them back, as the 'Bird Nesting Season' is officially from

February until August (Natural England) and it is recommended that vegetation works (tree or hedge cutting) or site clearance should be done outside of the nesting season. However, in reality the nesting period *may* start before this and extend beyond it, in some cases.

EXTERNAL PROPERTY LIGHTING

Please be considerate when installing external lighting to your property.

Our suggestions are that if you have gate lights, have them on sparingly (to save energy), and make sure your security lights only come on when someone actually enters your driveway.

Also, make sure your security lights don't shine in through other people's windows!

You can find official guidance on lights via the Parish Council website.

The guidance includes this summary advice. 'Think before you light. Is it necessary? What effect will it have on others? Will it cause a nuisance? How can you minimise the problem?'

Next Planning, Highway & Licensing Meetings (if sufficient business) | February, 1 March, 5 April 2018

Full Council Meetings 15 Feb, 15 March, 19 April 2018

Council Meetings start at 7pm and are held at the Reading Rooms.

Contact details for the Council are published in this magazine. Approved Minutes are available on the Parish Council website.