

Chair's Notes - January 2019

A Happy New Year to everyone in Curdridge and Curbridge

A Sad Farewell

At our November meeting, Councillor Kevan Bundell resigned from the Council, after over twelve years of service to the village, including five years as Chairman. He resisted members' requests to reconsider his decision, and will be sorely missed. His knowledge and hard work have been of great value to the village, and I am well aware that he is a hard act to follow.

What's happening around Curbridge?

You can't have failed to notice the work going on beside the A3051 north of Curbridge. This is where the northern exit from Whiteley will come out. The North Whiteley development is to be built along this new length of road, stopping just short of the A3051 to retain a settlement gap. There will be another access to Whiteley further south, which should protect Curbridge from southbound traffic from the new housing.

The 3500 new houses in North Whiteley are being built on land that is currently within our parish. Recognizing that such a large urban development would overwhelm our rural villages, the Parish Council has agreed with Winchester City and with Whiteley Town Council that the new housing area will be transferred to Whiteley. Our parish will then have a smaller area, but will still contain the whole of Curdridge and Curbridge, including King's Corner and everything east of the Hamble. This change is important to keep our parish covered by Winchester's Rural and Market Towns policy, which prevents major developments. Some of the land around Ridge Lane is excluded from the Whiteley development, and we have asked that this too should remain in Curdridge Parish, since its connectivity is with Curbridge rather than with Whiteley.

Your PC is working closely with Whiteley Town Council to respond to Winchester's consultations about planning North Whiteley. We were pleased to note that the planned primary school links up well with existing and planned public footpaths.

Council Assets

Following the councillors' tour in November, work has been approved to improve the Pond and to bring all the surroundings of the pond up to the standard of the area near the bench. Council agreed to investigate the possibility of handing over the Parish Quay (by the Horse and Jockey) to the River Hamble Harbour Authority, on whose land it stands. This is intended to ensure that it remains a public facility into the future.

The Roads

Hampshire Highways is pressing ahead with its *Operation Resilience* plans to address the flooding at Station Hill. Until that is done, we will need to take extreme care when there is a frost. At the time of writing, there are still no yellow posts at the junction of

Reading Room Lane and the A334, and we are waiting for signage improvements near the Triangle.

I have installed software to get statistics from the speed limit reminder sign on Wangfield Lane, though the unit is so old that it will only run on an unsupported version of Windows. We should get much more useful information from the new sign.

Eric Bodger

Planning Decisions

Land Adjacent 6 Kitnocks Farm Cottage Outlands Lane Curdridge Hampshire - Single Storey conservatory and Juliet balcony on rear elevation. Case Officer: Liz Marsden.
PERMITTED.

Future meeting dates for Curdridge Parish Council

Planning, Highway & Licensing Committee Meetings (if there is sufficient business):
10 January 2019, 7 February 2019, 7 March 2019

Full Council Meetings:
24 January 2019, 21 February 2019, 21 March 2019

Council Meetings start at 7pm and are held at the Reading Rooms. Meeting Agendas are made available on the Parish Council website www.curdridge-pc.gov.uk. Approved Minutes are also made available on the website. The contact details for the Council are published in this magazine.