

Chair's Notes

July 2019

Massacre of the wild-flowers

The cemetery contains a wide range of wild flowers, including orchids, so the Council schedules its first cut of the season to be after these flowers have had chance to seed. Unfortunately, this year, somebody came in with a mower and cut them down to the ground. In the event, we lost the flowers without much being done to keep the area around the graves looking tidy, which our contractors are asked to ensure when they cut the grass.

If you spot anyone in the cemetery with a domestic mower, please ask them to stop. Their action may be well-meant, but it is destructive of flowers that many villagers enjoy.

Annual Parish Meeting

This took place in the Reading Room on May 23rd. The meeting itself was brief, with a short and informative report from Stephanie Slater, our Police SCO, and updates from County and City councillors. Very quickly we moved on to eating snacks, and drinking wine, beer and soft drinks. This provided a good opportunity for informal discussions.

Speed Limit Reminders

By the time you read this, we should have taken delivery of a new speed limit reminder (SLR) sign. This will tell drivers how fast they are going, in addition to warning them if they are exceeding the limit. We plan to move this around between the approved sites, leaving the old sign in place on Wangfield Lane.

A new site has been approved on Lockhams Road, but will not come into use until Hampshire Highways has installed a socket for our post.

Missing Post Box

Following our initial lack of success in persuading Royal Mail to reinstate the post box at the Botley Road end of Curdrige Lane, your council has suggested a site across the road, next to the Pond. This will give the collection van a safe place to stop (on Calcot) and ensure that many more addresses are within half a mile of a post box. Several villagers have already supported us by complaining to customer.service@royalmail.com

Affordable Housing

Action Hampshire has informed us of good progress with the proposal to build a small number of affordable houses next to St Peter's Close (between Botley Road and the stream to the north of the recreation ground). Nothing will be agreed until the plans have been presented at another Community Consultation Event to show villagers what is proposed.

The Phone Box Book Exchange

Following on from last month's note on the former telephone kiosk by St Peter's Close, we have received strong support for leaving the original "Telephone" signs in place at the top of the box. Several other villages (such as Minstead) have followed the same line.

Eric Bodger

PLANNING DECISIONS

The Hollies Curdridge Lane Curdridge SO32 2BH - Removal of Condition 6. The occupancy condition no longer serves its intended purpose. The use of the site has changed over the years and is now predominantly in equestrian use. Case Officer: Liz Marsden. Case No: 19/00734/FUL. **PERMITTED.**

Haslemere Gordon Road Curdridge SO32 2BE - Proposed single storey rear extension and 1st floor rear extension. Case Officer: Rose Lister. Case No: 19/00875/HOU. **PERMITTED.**