

## **Curdridge Parish Council - Chair's Notes**

### **Chair's Notes**

**November 2018**

#### **Botley Bypass**

In the public session of the October Planning meeting, WYG Planning Consultants gave a brief update regarding ideas for the development of Sherecroft Farm, whose owners (Jenkyns Trust) have instructed them to prepare plans relating to their parcel of land next to Botley Petrol Station, where the by-pass will join the A334. The proposals shared with an earlier meeting included a development of houses between the proposed by-pass and Botley, which would support a donation of land for the by-pass.

WYG wanted to report back that they have made further investigations regarding the main two points raised by Curdridge Parish Council, *viz.* the requirement for more parking for Botley Railway Station and the provision of sufficient elderly accommodation within their development scheme. They carried out a survey of six local train stations (with focus on Botley and Hedge End) and prepared a report of their findings, showing that Botley station car park had all 22 spaces full on weekdays. Comparison with passenger movements and parking spaces provided at Hedge End Station, the report indicated that provision of a further 26 parking spaces would be sufficient. However, based on Council's observations that people also park at the Allotments and other roads within Curdridge, they would be prepared to provide 48 new spaces, which might also mean that some spaces in the current car park could be converted to 20 minute maximum wait drop off/pick up spaces. They believed that parking charges would be needed at the new car park in order to recoup the set up costs, although once this had been done the Parish Council or another authority could take responsibility for the car park if they wished.

The Parish Council had suggested that any housing development should include smaller accommodation for the elderly and other residents who wished to down-size. WYG had originally considered four bungalows, but were now looking more towards 10-12 bungalows. Members felt this would be beneficial.

Cllr Bundell raised the possibility of Botley Tarmac having a rear access on to the by-pass from their site, to address the safety issues relating to lorries entering and leaving through the station car park. WYG advised that they would investigate this, but it was very unlikely to be possible; there is a five metre height difference between their site and the land to the rear and there would also be several land owners to negotiate with. In any case, Botley Tarmac might not want to change current access, especially if it involved the expense of moving their lorry weighing system.

#### **Other News**

The Cricketers' Pond has suffered from vandalism and theft recently, and cllr Newton has on several occasions needed to make the area round the bench safe. We have

now agreed a plan for some new fencing and improvements to the seat, which I hope will be in place by the time you read this.

The Council has bought a modern Speed Limit Reminder sign that can be installed at five locations around the village. These will inform drivers of the actual speed they are doing, rather than simply warning those who are going too fast. We can also get good information on traffic volume and speed, which will improve our ability to get action from Hampshire Highways.

Responsibility for the flooding at Station Hill is still being disputed by Southern Water, Hampshire Highways and Network Rail, but the Council continues to press for a solution before winter turns the flood into an ice-rink.

Council members will travel around the village in November to inspect all Council assets, to ensure they are safe and adequately maintained. If you have any concerns about benches, the pond, or any other council property, please let me know.

Councillor Eric Bodger

### **Planning Decisions**

Beechcroft Vicarage Lane Curdridge SO32 2DP - Lean-to extension to existing garage to provide kit wash-down and storage area. Case Officer: Nicola Clayton. Case No: 18/01439/FUL. **PERMITTED.**

Hillview Chapel Lane Curdridge SO32 2BB - Erection of two storey front and rear extensions, single storey side and rear extensions, new roof and remodel of elevations. Case Officer: Robert Green. Case No: 18/01455/HOU. **PERMITTED.**

### **Future meeting dates for Curdridge Parish Council**

Planning, Highway & Licensing Committee Meetings (if there is sufficient business):

1 November, 6 December 2018 & 10 January 2019

Full Council Meetings:

18 October, 15 November, 20 December 2018 & 24 January 2019

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.