

Chair's Notes May 2024

All Change at the Parish Council

Jenny Whittle is retiring from the role of Clerk and Parish Council Manager, after almost nine years in the role, during which she successfully kept our decisions about village services on track and ensured that all financial and other controls were observed. I'm very grateful for all the support she has provided during my time as chair..

On 18 April, we welcomed Nicki Oliver as our new Clerk and PCM. Nicki is very experienced, having served Wickham PC for many years, taking on Whiteley when it split from Wickham. She remains clerk to Whiteley Town Council, and will devote 40% of her time to Curdridge.

The second change is that this will probably be my last "Chair's Notes", as I shall stand down from the chair of Curdridge PC at our AGM on May 16th. I'll do this secure in the knowledge that the Council is in good shape. The current vice-chair, Paul Haskins, is expected to take over, having already shown his skill in chairing some contentious Planning meetings.

Affordable Housing

Gavin Jones, of Hastoe Housing Association, gave us news about the eight homes being built next to St. Peter's Close. He reports that work at the site has been delayed slightly; partly because of planning complications but also to enable dormice to be relocated. However, the hedge trimming is now complete and works are expected to resume by the beginning of May.

You can find further details, including artist's impressions of what the new homes will look like, at www.hastoe.com/curdridge.

Progress with the Planning Vision for the Parish

There have been two well-attended meetings to present the results of last autumn's consultation. Villagers provided more detail to and added some new points, which we will develop into a detailed plan. The goal is to get an approved Neighbourhood Plan that will give us more local control of what gets built. You can track progress at ourvillage2050.com/

Councillor Vacancy

I am writing this before the meeting on 18 April, at which we will co-opt one of the four excellent parishioners who put themselves forward in March to fill this vacancy. We will announce the result on the Council website: curdridge-pc.gov.uk/ soon after the meeting, so the news will be available by the time you read this.

Council Meetings

All parishioners are very welcome at our meetings, which are held in the Reading Rooms at 7pm. You can check the agenda on curdridge-pc.gov.uk/agendas/ to find what is to be discussed. There may be planning or other items that matter to you.

Eric Bodger

Planning Decisions and Appeals Notified by Winchester

Harfields Farm House, Botley Road, Curdridge SO32 2DU

Two no. double car ports (RETROSPECTIVE). Case Officer: Cameron Finch. Case No: 24/00067/HOU. **PERMITTED**

Pinkmead Farm, Botley Road, Curbridge SO30 2HA

Construct a new general purpose agricultural store for the storage of hay. Case No: 24/00593/APN. Decided: *that no objection be raised.*

The Hollies, Curdridge Lane, Curdridge SO32 2BH

Change of use of land to accommodate three shepherd's huts, package treatment plant and three car parking spaces. Case no: 24/00199/DIC. Decided: *that Condition 6 be discharged.*

FUTURE MEETING DATES FOR CURDRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

We hold a Full Council Meeting at 7pm on the third Thursday of each month (except in March and August). Only when necessary, there may be a Planning meeting on the first Thursday, at which other urgent Council business can be conducted if required.

The next Full Council Meetings are on:

16 May (AGM and Parish Assembly), 20 June, 18 July 2024
in the Reading Rooms.

If urgent business arises, an extra meeting might possibly be required on 2 May and perhaps on the first Thursday of later months

Meeting agendas, including finalised date, time and venue for meetings, are made available on the Parish Council website www.curdridge-pc.gov.uk which will also report meeting cancellations when necessary. We make available a period at the start of each meeting for public comments. In addition, the chairman can invite members of the public to speak on specific items of business where this is appropriate.