

FARRINGDON PARISH COUNCIL MAY 2022

ROAD /ENVIRONMENTAL OBSERVATIONS AND ISSUES IN NEED OF ATTENTION

Local Road Signs

A survey of the local parish road signs has been undertaken by two members of the Council, who have also cleaned, part repaired and reported many damaged signs in our parish to HCC.

Following a survey of all the road signs within the village and its surrounding area, a report with suggestions listed has been written and the Parish Council will now overview the signage within our village and hopefully at no cost, signs can be updated by HCC.

Investigation has shown that several signs that are damaged (most reported previously to HCC) are still damaged and those thought not to require update have been directly reported to HCC website following the rules indicated by the Chief Engineer, HCC.

The Government web site on road signs is extremely useful and shows the multitude of signs available and how they should be used in all road situations.

There are many rules and some of our signs do not meet the standards set in 2018.

Areas covered have been:-

1. Brightstone Lane (from crossroads to Serendipity) 30 mph and 60 mph.
2. A32 North Aylwards Drive to Park House 30 mph and 60 mph
3. Farringdon Crossroads 30 mph
4. A32 South from Farringdon Industrial Centre to near Kitcombe Lane
30/40/60 mph
5. Shirnall Hill to Church road 30mph
6. Church Road and Crows Lane 30 mph
7. Gaston Lane 30 mph and 60 mph
8. The Street and Hall Lane 30 mph and 60 mph

Just counting individual mounting poles we have 50 signs within the 30 mph limit, 7 signs within the 40 mph limit and 12 in adjacent 60 mph zone.

As a general finding, majority of signs require cleaning. (*most have now been done*)

Sign visibility sometimes obstructed by hedges (*especially in the summer months*)

Some sight lines could be improved.

Some signs may not meet current regulations.

There is a possibility of some sign removal; School, Bus related.

There is the possibility of combining some signs to one pole.

There are one or more missing lane/road names

Some mandatory Stop signs may be missing.

White lining could also be improved

Local Problems Roads and Lanes

Majority of problems seen within or near the Farringdon Parish are listed in relation to their Road/Lane location and have been reported to HCC/EHDC via their websites and through "Fix-My-Street" which is accessed with direct reporting to local councils with feedback. It is apparent that approximately 50%+ of the reports are fixed and others are still to be resolved.

Locally it is evident that road projects started may not be completely finished going by the number of signs + equipment left at the roadside!

Response by HCC is very slow on all reports (some are 2 years old) and typically, although reports are acknowledged with job number, not much happens!

Following requests on updates, I have received various replies some saying "lack of workforce", "not a safety issue", "will be done when road next closed" etc etc.

Over the last few years we always had a good communication with HCC highways personnel who would come out and view the various jobs but recently we have had minimal contact.

Also going by the operators that do appear and seem to be repeating a job done the previous month, there seems to be a lack of internal communication as well.

Flood Alleviation Works

This month, it is anticipated that flood alleviation works to start on the following:-

New drainage pipe across A32 by the Cottage.

Increased diameter drainage works, north of the Farringdon crossroads.

Improvements to drains near Boundary House.

A32 road resurfacing will now take place later in the year. White lining and signs to follow.

All this activity hopefully would reduce the risk to winter flooding and is actioned through the Flood Action Group. Water table level now at 104.36 AOD which is normal for May.

ESSO SOUTHAMPTON to LONDON new pipeline.

According to ESSO online information.

Southampton to London pipeline work at A32 is destined to start September 2022 and will be an auger bore (*no trench across A32*) but guess some disruptions up to then by preparation workforce.

Woodside lane will be dug up and new pipe laid across just above old railway bridge and is destined to start August 2022.

Brightstone lane will also be dug up for new pipe just above Pies farm (*July2022?*)

Parish Meetings continue, refer to website and notice boards. <https://farringdonpc.org/>

Next meeting: Wed 11th May 2022 @7pm in committee room at Chawton Village Hall.

MAIN A32 SOUTH to Farringdon crossroads

A32 clear at present but there are some issues that require HCC attention.

Road edges near "The Wheels" need repair and drains in this area are still blocked!

Flood alleviation road works may start this month.

KITCOMBE LANE

Monitoring of "off road" vehicles. *On going*

FARRINGDON CROSSROADS

Pot holes and poor road surface are being monitored.

Road signs are under review.

Speed monitoring equipment needs updating as last seen working 6 weeks ago!

Waste bin next to bus shelter requires monitoring as filling quickly by Bahnstomers coffee cups!

A32 NORTH TO CHAWTON ROUNDABOUT

Lay-by: Please report any litter or rubbish as this is a favourite dumping area.

“Woodside Lane “sign is being investigated.

Work by Operation Resilience now completed with clearance of most of the ditches

Following the wind last month, several fallen trees branches in need of clearance by landowners.

Owners have been notified

Kerb edging stones are still covered in grass and soil in most cases + side drains blocked.

Various old signs attached to road signs should be removed.

BRIGHTSTONE LANE

The construction of a new SE Water pumping station is now complete and the old pumping station is we assume being removed. The old brick pumping station adjacent Lords Wood has now been made secure with entrance and windows bricked up.

Other problems exist in lane and have been reported.

Oak tree branch is overhanging lane at top of crossroads. *Reported 3 months ago!*

Covered kerb stones along the lane require clearance.

Most of the side ditches have debris in them requiring clearance.

2x Chevron signs are in need of repair, 30 mph sign broken and drains under old bridge are blocked. *All reported to HCC*

Beware of lane side edges when driving through and above LORDS WOOD where several vehicles have had damaged tyres. *Reported*

Possible disruption during installation of the Esso pipeline in coming months.

SHIRNAL HILL

Security fencing outside MAPLECOMBE is still there after two years although requests to remove have not been actioned.

Road edges reported as breaking up on the right hand side going to Upper Farringdon.

CHURCH ROAD

Work STOPPED at the Massey's Folly site.

There being a change of ownership of this site with the site now been made properly secured.

The roadway from Folly past the Church entrance is still being investigated as to repair costs.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) money may be used here.

Road signs in this road are being investigated into their suitability.

THE STREET

Blocked Drain outside BROWNINGS ORCHARD and roadway mud outside GILLS HOUSE ; these have been photographed and reported to HCC—as yet no action.

CROWS LANE.

Westview. Parish is still looking at solution to the poor condition of the verges adjacent Westview Gardens. Possibility of CIL money being used for this project.

1 blocked drain

Reported to HCC

GASTON LANE

Ditches along lane are in need of clearance and exit point of piped drainage system from Crows lane into this lane needs attention. *Reported to HCC.*

Drains near Barley Wood farm are sometimes blocked and being monitored .

Brickwork under the Caker stream bridge is being monitored for subsidence.

2 road signs have been attended to.

HALL LANE

5 road signs identified with all requiring some attention, 2 reported as damaged or not meeting regulations. 1 blocked drain *Reported to HCC*

FOOTPATHS AND HEDGES

Due to large oak tree that fell in Stank lane with damage to adjoining garden sheds, some examination of old deeds and land registry information has yet to find out owner of this bridleway. It is thought to be part of the Alywards estate years ago.

All paths and bridleways are being monitored to accessibility.

Six paths/bridleways are on the HCC cutting list for cutting normally starting June/July.

Please note it is the responsibility of landowners to keep all hedges and overhanging trees to be cut back from the road, lane edges and those bordering any footpaths and bridleways. Rights of Way will only cut footpaths to 1.5m and bridleways to 2.5m width.

Problems can be reported to myself or directly to the Rights Of Way website.

PLAYING FIELD AND VILLAGE GARDEN

PLAYING FIELD AND PLAY GROUND

Please use this area under government guidelines

The ZIP WIRE is repaired and is fully operational.

Minor cosmetic problems on equipment to be rectified following a playground inspection.

This has still to be actioned by the Parish Council.

Logging of weekly checks on the apparatus should be in hand.

VILLAGE GARDEN

Garden work by volunteers continues and has made this a very successful area both for local residents and walkers on the circular route from Chawton.

Adjacent fencing blown over by the wind has been replaced.

All ideas and help from the community appreciated.

Adjacent parking, use of passage and access to Right Of Way is being monitored.

Illegal parking on the right of way should be reported to the local authorities directly.

FLOODING

Local water level measured was 104.36m AOD; normal for this time of year.

There has been no meeting of the Flood Action Committee at Winchester HCC.

Various Flood Action Group works have been delayed again and now apparently to start this month but seem to be delayed constantly. Several projects to be actioned along the route of the Lavant Stream from Newton Valence Crossroads to Chawton through Lower Farringdon and will cause delays along the A32. It is expected that work will take possibly 2 months to complete.

Further information about the drainage scheme, is available at the Flood Alleviation Projects weblink <https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/environment/flooding/floodalleviationprojects>

To report footpath problems use website <https://row.hants.gov.uk/standardmap.aspx>

To view the Parish Council Website use <https://farringdonpc.org/>

PLEASE REPORT ANY ROAD/ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS DIRECTLY TO ME
OR TO ANY PARISH COUNCILLOR OR TO OUR CLERK

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