

FARRINGDON PARISH COUNCIL SEPT 2022

ROAD /ENVIRONMENTAL OBSERVATIONS AND ISSUES IN NEED OF ATTENTION

UPDATE ON FLOOD ALLEVIATION ROAD WORKS --- IN PROGRESS

I attended on behalf of the Farringdon Parish Council another meeting held on Tuesday 6th September at Farringdon called by the Multi Agency Flood Action Group. This was to discuss local issues being highlighted through local residents and my list of observations sent via email to the Implementation Manager concerning the A32 road works and traffic flow around our village.

Current additional drainage system along the A32 north of the crossroads to aid flood flow is continuing with a modified system due to the discovery of unknown utilities and decontaminated soil problems. Work will now continue to the 20th September and it will be expected that late evening work and weekend work will be utilised to finish by this date. No further flood alleviation work will then be seen on the A32 before next April/May 2023 which will be fully open until then.

At the end of September through October work will be off road with new pipe work being installed from Boundary House through to New Road which will require a few days closure to install the new drainage pipe work.

Work starting April/May 2023 will involve ditch work and under road pipe work between "The Wheels" and "The Cottage" on the A32 south of the crossroads.

Further work will start next year in following the route of the Lavant Stream to Chawton, under the Bypass and to Lumbry farm with blockage points being eased along route. The time scale for this work is still under discussion.

Contractors, landowner consent and licenses are still being sort for non main A32 jobs:-

We further discussed the signage system being used and the problems of sign type and position along the A32 and the surrounding lanes. Attention was draw to signs at Brightstone, Gaston and Hall lanes. Signs are being checked on a weekly basis.

The position of the "Banksmen" was discussed and possibly they could move to a more suitable position at the road works entry to try and stop vehicles passing the "No Though Road" signs and then turning in residents entrances.

I also reported the various instances of vehicle/lorry movements causing recent problems.

Cars and Caravans, flashing Ambulances and police cars using the lanes.

Traffic accident in Hall lane where the recovery lorries were so large they could not negotiate the lane! 30 ton lorry from France that tried to get to Farringdon Business Park via Brightstone lane; took over 30 minutes to reverse back to the crossroads demolishing a side wall and road signs on the way! Lorry hitting the wall at Woodside Lane when trying to turn. Apparently there have been two thefts of contractors equipment over the past weeks.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/environment/flooding/strategies/scheme-a32-farringdon>
david.williams@farringdonpc.org

LOCAL ROAD/LANE SIGNS

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.

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.

Having attended this weeks meeting it was stated by HCC that resources were very low; there was a general problem in filling many vacancies and in some cases where the road problem was deemed low level it would take more than a year to resolve! Contractors had changed recently and "Milestone" are the approved contractors at present.

It was also stated by HCC representatives that all hedges and side ditches are the responsibility of the landowner. HCC will only clear runoffs from road/lane to the ditch.

Hedges and ditches not maintained will receive a 3 letter reminder and if not then maintained will be cut/cleared by HCC contractors at the landowners cost. You have been warned!!

ESSO SOUTHAMPTON to LONDON new pipeline.

Work continues on the Southampton to London pipeline. The supply of large pipes on very large lorries is one of the reasons that the A32 work had to stop a couple of days to allow the transport through.

Parish Meetings continue, refer to website and notice boards. <https://farringdonpc.org/>
Parish Website is being updated so there may be access problems at present.
Next meeting: Wed 14th September 2022 @7.30pm in committee room at Chawton Village Hall.

LOCAL ISSUES WITH ROADS AND LANES **MAJORITY REPORTED TO HCC/EHDC**

MAIN A32 SOUTH to Farringdon crossroads

Expected road works to now start April/May 2023.

KITCOMBE LANE

Monitoring of off road vehicles.

No reports of any problems

FARRINGDON CROSSROADS

Road signs are under review.

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

A32 NORTH TO CHAWTON ROUNDABOUT

Lay-by: Taken over by the A32 road works at present.

“Woodside Lane “sign is being investigated.

Several fallen trees branches have been cleared by landowners.

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

Various old signs attached to road signs should be removed.

BRIGHTSTONE LANE

Reported problems :-.

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.

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

Esso pipeline disruption in coming months as work has started just above Pies farm where the pipeline will cross the lane.

SHIRNAL HILL

Edges of road on RHS reported as well as drains following this weeks rainfall causing drains to be blocked adjacent Chase View.

CHURCH ROAD

Still no work at the Massey’s Folly site with site 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.

GASTON LANE

Ditches along lane are in need of clearance . 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.

HALL LANE

2 signs reported as damaged or not meeting regulations. Reported to HCC

FOOTPATHS AND HEDGES

All paths and bridleways are being monitored to accessibility, most are fairly overgrown.

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

Pigeons were causing a problem over the swings and the attached bird spikes seem to have solved problem.

Minor cosmetic problems on equipment is being rectified following a playground inspection.

Logging of weekly checks on the apparatus is in hand.

Please report any problems seen to the parish.

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.

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 94.85m AOD; normal for this time of year.

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 Website use <https://farringdonpc.org/>

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

david.williams@farringdonpc.org

clerk@farringdonpc.org