

FARRINGDON PARISH COUNCIL JANUARY 2024

ROAD /ENVIRONMENTAL OBSERVATIONS AND ISSUES IN NEED OF ATTENTION

Parish Meetings continue, refer to website and notice boards. <https://farringdonpc.org/>
Next meeting: Tuesday 9th January 2024 @7.00pm in Farringdon Church.
Reporting any local issue on road, footpaths etc. can now be done via our updated website.
Hopefully the more instances of you reporting a problem will raise the priority of the job!

UPDATE ON FLOOD ALLEVIATION ROAD WORKS --- IN PROGRESS

Pipe work headwall and exit grid in lower playground completed.
Pipe work with multiple inspection points completed up to hedge line opposite 4 Chase Field.
Discussions with the Flood Alleviation Group and residents continue to establish future responsibilities and any licensing required. A planning application is being processed as suggested route of drainage route is not on HCC property.

Hopefully further work will continue 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 unknown.

At present a small river is starting to flow at Chawton and the A32 fields and ditches are filling up slowly from the north towards Farringdon.

As the local water table level is now 112m AOD (Flooding seen at crossroads at 117m), we may this year experience some flooding.

Please bear this in mind and prepare if necessary- the Parish council is updating information on a weekly basis; both on the Farringdon Parish Website and Farringdon.biz.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/environment/flooding/strategies/scheme-a32-farringdon>
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LOCAL ROAD/LANE SIGNS

HCC have updated most of the road/lane signs in the village but there are some changes still required especially around the out of date "school" signs--- HCC have replied with updated costs and these will be discussed and hopefully agreed upon our next meeting on the 9th.

Changes to be agreed upon are:-

New lane signs for Woodside Lane.

Change of sign positions for FIC/FBP including a new footpath sign at Alywards Drive.

Change of and extra stop sign for Brightstone Lane and crossroads junction. Removal of old school signs.

New sign for Parsonage Close and footpath sign moved to be more visible.

New junction sign by the Folly to be moved nearer to Parsonage Close.

A replacement "ALTON" sign at the Crows Lane/Gaston lane junction.

Chevron sign near R/Crown to be investigated, possible replacement or removal.

Following the resurfacing and new white lining of the A32, several points have been raised as to the suitability of the white lining; its action in controlling parking, overtaking and speed through the village--- again discussions are in place with HCC and an agenda item is raised for the next meeting.

ESSO SOUTHAMPTON to LONDON new pipeline.

Locally work has stopped, I guess due to ground conditions but hopefully will resume when weather permits. Looking at some of the local finished areas, they have succeeded in an excellent cleanup and re-establishment of all the worked grounds, hedges and fields etc.

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

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. Comments from HCC suggest that only high risk items are being tackled at present and that minor problems could take up to 18 months to resolve!!

MAIN A32 SOUTH to Farringdon crossroads

A32 adjacent flood alleviation works have been completed. Ditches at side of the A32 require clearing and it is also evident that drainage pipes under side roads are partially blocked.

KITCOMBE LANE

Monitoring of off road vehicles and ash trees.

No further reports.

FARRINGDON CROSSROADS (north to the 30mph limit)

The old telephone box is being re painted and local notice boards will be refurbished.

Minor changes to the stop signs at the crossroads and FIC/FBP signs to be placed onto one post with new footpath sign at Ayward's Drive have been requested and hopefully HCC will accommodate.

The memorial rose gardens are in the process of being further updated.

A32 NORTH TO CHAWTON ROUNDABOUT

New "Woodside Lane "signs are requested; two suggested one left and one RHS of lane.

A32 kerb edging to Chawton still covered in grass and soil in most cases plus some side drains blocked.

Various old signs attached to road signs have been removed. There are still broken signs near and on the Chawton roundabout but the broken manhole cover has now been repaired.

There is still a quantity of old road signs and rubbish although reported to HCC still remain.

BRIGHTSTONE LANE Now passable with caution

Following the recent December flash flood all of the 22 drains were blocked and it required six (yes six) drain clearing lorries (some @ 1.30am with flashing lights), a road sweeper to attempt to clear all of the washed down mud, grit and debris.

Drains are nearly all open now but mud, gravel and debris remain on edges and in the lane.

The lane was blocked for 2-3 days with local residents repositioning road closed/access signs when moved or blown over by the winds.

Two vehicles damaged having driven through the flood There is still the problem of covered kerb stones along the lane.

Some of the side ditches still require clearance. Lane edges at upper part of lane require filling in as now deep..

Overhead BT/Openreach telephone cables have been partly sorted by some of the overhanging branches being removed.

Several instances of fly tipping reported to EHDC who were quick to act and one fly tipping (mattresses etc) reported to "Woodlands For Sale" but as yet no reply or response.

Locally we do not know who now owns sections of LORDS WOOD, apparently all now sold.

Walking through the wood there is evidence of small campsites, shelters and the top end seems to have advertised some kind of woodland play area?

SHIRNALL HILL

Drains at Chase view reported and have been dealt with and will be future monitored.

CHURCH ROAD and Parsonage Close

Road signs are in the process of being updated. Old telephone box to be repainted.

Massey's Folly is still there in the same state as 6-8 months ago. There are signs that the building is no longer water proof so we wait and see if any work starts soon – hopefully!

The roadway from Folly past the Church entrance is still being discussed to rebuild costs.

THE STREET

Blocked drain and drainage problems still apparent, may need to be reported again.

Stank lane was blocked by large fallen tree, reported to HCC but local residents have started to clear, thanks.

CROWS LANE.

Parish is still looking at solution to the poor condition of the verges adjacent Westview Gardens. CIL money being allocated for this project. Parking at corner of Crows lane and Hall lane is being abused again as yellow double lines are fading fast--- this have been reported and hopefully will be repainted shortly.

GASTON LANE

Ditches near outlet of drainage system from Crows Lane/Gaston lane are still blocked.
Brickwork under the Caker stream bridge is being monitored for subsidence.
Potholes are appearing in lane below Barley Wood Farm

HALL LANE

Two signs reported as damaged or not meeting regulations have been updated by HCC during their village sign update.
One chevron sign may not meet regulations and again will be replaced or removed.
Large pothole in lane fixed but new pothole has developed further along!
The new SDNP sign at the junction of Hall lane and the B3006 has been reported as a sightline obstruction.
The left hand junction sign on the B3006 still not replaced after 2 years but has been highlighted yet again to HCC
Some of the hedges have been cut and the unsighted left hand bend sign can now be seen!

FOOTPATHS AND HEDGES

All paths and bridleways are being monitored; most are now just passable but muddy.
HCC Rights of Way list six paths within the parish and hopefully are on the list for next year.

It has been stated by HCC representatives that all hedges and side ditches are the responsibility of the landowner. 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!!

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

LOWER PLAYING FIELD AND PLAY GROUND

Please use this area under government guidelines
A new playground inspection was carried out and highlighted several small problems which are in the process of being repaired – weather permitting.

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 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 - POSSIBLE FLOODING THIS YEAR AS WATER TABLE IS HIGHER THAN NORMAL

PLEASE BE PREPARED

Local water level measured was 112m AOD on January 4th and is rising slowly.
Previous flood years have shown this trend and it is the rainfall in January, February and March that seems to decide if it will flood with Lavant stream starting to become visible.
Ditches and fields along the A32 towards Chawton now have water in them and possibly water will be seen in local A32 cellars. Keep checking Parish website.
There have been no further meetings at Winchester since the Flood Action Committee updated us on their progress to date and future work timescales.

To report footpath problems use the Parish Website <https://farringdonpc.org/>
PLEASE REPORT ANY ROAD/ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS DIRECTLY TO ME OR TO ANY PARISH COUNCILLOR, OUR CLERK, OR VIA THE PARISH WEBSITE.

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