

FARRINGDON PARISH COUNCIL SEPTEMBER 2024
ROAD /ENVIRONMENTAL OBSERVATIONS AND ISSUES IN NEED OF ATTENTION

Again, very quiet last two months with little or no work from Hampshire Council on various highlighted/reported problems.

Reporting any local issue on road, footpaths etc. can now be done via our updated website www.farringdonpc.org. Hopefully the more instances of you reporting a problem will raise the priority of the job!

UPDATE ON FLOOD ALLEVIATION ROAD WORKS - IN PROGRESS

We still await result of HCC application for the continuation of the flood alleviation pipe work/ditch through the rear of the gardens east of the A32 following the Lavant stream route. Please refer to:-

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

LOCAL ROAD/LANE SIGNS

HCC have updated most of the road/lane signs in the village but there are still some sign changes which are still under discussion—we await work by HCC.

ESSO SOUTHAMPTON to LONDON new pipeline.

Locally ground work looks completed with re-seeding of adjacent land. There may be further work on re-instating lost hedgerows.

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. AT PRESENT LITTLE OR NO WORK IS NOW SEEN BY HCC.

MAIN A32 SOUTH to Farringdon crossroads

Ditches at side of the A32 require clearing and it is also evident that drainage pipes under side roads are still partially blocked. Responsibility deemed to be with landowners.

KITCOMBE LANE

No reports of any problems.

FARRINGDON CROSSROADS (north to the 30mph limit)

Refurbishment of the old telephone boxes and Parish notice board is underway with work carried out by your councillors. Minor changes to the stop signs at the crossroads and FIC/FBP signs to be placed onto one post with new footpath sign at Aylward's Drive have been requested and hopefully HCC will accommodate. War Memorial rose gardens by the bus shelter will be updated with new roses by year end.

NORTH TO CHAWTON ROUNDABOUT

New "Woodside Lane "signs are requested; two suggested, one left and one right of lane. The ditches along the A32 are still a problem with litter, rubbish and vegetation in them. Although again reported to HCC, it appears that the onus is still on the land owners to clear! There are still old/broken signs and rubbish near and on the Chawton roundabout. Although reported several times, no action by HCC or contractors.

BRIGHTSTONE LANE

Drains and ditches are now filling up quickly with some grids totally blocked. HCC state they provide twice yearly drain and road clearance by pump lorry and road sweeper but as yet not seen any work. Poor verge cutting was reported to HCC but as yet no response. Hedges are now a problem in places with visibility poor.

SHIRNALL HILL

Drains at Chase view dealt with and are being monitored.

CHURCH ROAD and PARSONAGE CLOSE

Local signs are in the process of being updated. Old telephone box to be repainted once the tree overhanging the notice board has been cut back with owners permission. Massey's Folly has undergone some ground clearance work and hopefully building work will resume shortly in preparation for future changes as per planning application. Track by Church has been nicely updated and work is now complete.

THE STREET

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

CROWS LANE

Parish is still looking at solution to the poor condition of the verges adjacent Westview Gardens. A local meeting with Crows Lane residents (following leaflet drop) planned for 5th September to discuss the way forward.

GASTON LANE

Gaston lane (Caker stream bridge) is still **CLOSED** until bridge repaired. See homepage www.farringdonpc.org for more information.

HALL LANE

Poor visibility with hedges growing so quickly; one road sign now no longer seen-- beware! One chevron sign may not meet regulations and again will be replaced or removed. 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

FOOTPATHS AND HEDGES

All paths and bridleways are being monitored; most are now getting overgrown but passable. HCC Rights of Way list six paths within the parish and were on the cutting list for this year. The council has heard that HCC are at the moment not asking contractors to cut hedges. Locally there are volunteers doing this job—we wait for an update.

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 David.williams@farringdonpc.org or directly to the Rights Of Way website.

LOWER PLAYING FIELD, PLAY GROUND AND VILLAGE GARDEN

Future work on timber play structures will take place weather permitting. The hedge adjoining the A32 is being looked at in terms of height and width reduction. Bushes and trees on the site will be looked at and generally tidied up shortly and we are looking to repair fencing around the site.

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 - Water table now back to normal.

Local water table level measured as 102.54m on Sept 3rd and is still falling slowly. There have been no further meetings at Winchester with the Flood Action Group.

To report footpath problems use the 'Report It' tab on www.farringdonpc.org

PLEASE REPORT ANY ROAD/ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS DIRECTLY TO ME david.williams@farringdonpc.org OR TO ANY PARISH COUNCILLOR, OUR CLERK, OR VIA THE PARISH WEBSITE.