



ROADS REPORT – NOVEMBER 2025

MAIN A32 SOUTH to Farringdon crossroads - Ditches at side of the A32 still require clearing and it is also evident that drainage pipes under side roads are still partially blocked. Responsibility deemed to be with landowners. There are still left-over damaged road signs on the roadside.

KITCOMBE LANE - No reports of any problems. Monitoring of off-road vehicles continues with no recent off-road. The runoff ditches adjacent to Lords Wood have been dug out. Ownership is still being looked at.

FARRINGDON CROSSROADS (north to the 30mph limit) - Parking near crossroads now improved with most local residents displaying a parking permit. One abandoned car has been reported but another has been identified as a possible problem.

NORTH TO CHAWTON ROUNDABOUT - The ditches along the A32 are still a problem with litter, rubbish and vegetation in them. Reported to HCC. It appears that the onus is still on the landowners to clear. There is some uncertainty on ownership of the RHS side ditches as Chawton estate indicate that their deeds do not show this section of land being owned by them. The extensive tree cutting exercise has now started with road having traffic control lights in effect.

BRIGHTSTONE LANE - I have reported two flytipping sites to EHDC. BT Cables have now been secured next to Lords Wood following a fallen tree, but they appear to be only temporary and as they lie on the verge within 1/2 m of the road edge will no doubt be damaged when verge is cut again. I have reported to Openreach. The ownership of the various parcels of land associated with Lords Wood is still being investigated. Apparently planning has visited one site and are allowing certain aspects of the site including sighting of caravans and large metal containers etc. Planning is however requesting a formal application for a new site entrance which was been added; no application seen yet. Further application for a "sawmill" is in the pipeline? HCC closed the lane recently with all of the 22 grids and covers cleared although most are now again covered by fallen leaves. Runoff ditch clearance and kerb/verge clearance still to take place. The old central water pumping station is being dismantled.

SHIRNALL HILL - Drains at Chase view being monitored.

CHURCH ROAD and PARSONAGE CLOSE - Some work is happening at Massey's Folly. Scaffolding has been removed.

THE STREET - The ownership of stank lane was investigated but came to no conclusion at this time. Locally landowners are responsible for side hedges whilst HCC maintains bridleway to 2.5m.

CROWS LANE - Drainage system that exits into Gaston Lane require drains and gulleys to be cleared before the winter with increased runoff from fields above Hall Lane will cause local flooding.

GASTON LANE - (Caker stream bridge) is still **CLOSED** until bridge repaired. January 2026 indicated!!.
If the planned solar farm application is passed then during the site construction, this lane will become one way with Hall Lane also one way.

HALL LANE - Water leak on first corner is still running with repair due 10-14th November when the road will be **CLOSED**. Hedges are growing so be careful when using this lane; some potholes do exist, awaiting repair. Solar farm application for fields adjacent this lane and Gaston Lane now are being discussed. The SDNP sign at the junction of Hall Lane and the B3006 has been reported as a sightline obstruction but no action so far. 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 passable. HCC Rights of Way did list 6 paths within the parish and were on the cutting list for previous years, although not a lot of work was carried out. The council has heard that HCC are no longer engaging local contractors to cut hedges. Locally there are Ranger 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 may only cut footpaths to 1.50m and bridleways to 2.50m width. We believe that the Byways Open To all Traffic (B.O.A.T)'s are still under HCC control). Problems can be reported to myself or directly to the Rights of Way website.

LOWER PLAYING FIELD, PLAY GROUND - The hedge/trees adjacent to the A32 were trimmed in October. The zip wire and roundabout have been removed and were replaced with new play equipment suitable for toddler/older children in September. A new small pedestrian gate has been added to allow easy access to the recent installed gym equipment. Broken wooden bollards adjacent to the road are being checked and the PC are looking at the possibility of replacing them.

COMMUNITY VILLAGE GARDEN - Garden work by volunteers continues. 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 normal: Local water table level recorded as 94 m AOD on 2nd November 2025 is fairly normal. High December, January and February month rainfalls can indicate a possible flood situation. HCC/EHDC will respond accordingly in the event of flooding.

To report footpath problems, use the Parish Website <https://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.

Compiled Cllr David Williams