



## **Acton Trussell, Bednall and Teddesley Hay Parish Council**

### **March 2026 Highways Update**

#### **Correspondence between the PC and SCC Highways Dept regarding maintenance**

March 5<sup>th</sup> 2026 To Community Highways Team, Cannock & South Staffs, SCC,

*I hope that you are both well and that in a recent mail related to a resident's complains regarding tyre damage in Common Lane Bednall, near All Saints Church, you noted my belated thanks for the success of the works in Mill Lane Acton Trussell last year, where, as you know, I was sceptical of the success. We have had no flooding in this area even when the River Penk and related brooks levels have been very high. Well done.*

#### **1. Flooding of Bednall Road Between Top Road and Trussell Grange**

*A new one, I think, is considerable flooding of Bednall Lane, within the boundaries of Acton Trussell.*

*The location is on the attached pdf; the extent of flooding is as today [5 March], yesterday [4 March] it was considerably worse. I have spoken with the landowner of the field to the South of the flooding, which runs slightly uphill from the road and has a small pond in a small wooded area ca. 120m South of the road.*

*I am advised that they have recently improved the field drainage as the pond above was overflowing. The field drain is, they believe connected to the road drain, in Bednall Road, which they understand is blocked. Excess water has been flowing out of the drain gully, by the roadside, for some time but is now more vigorous.*

*They advise that this excess water has been running into their field on the opposite side of the road [North side] for some time, killing the hedge and flooding the field nearby. They report that they have rebuilt the hedge bank which has prevented the water flowing into the field. However this excess water then floods the road until it can flow to the road drain gulleys which, unfortunately, are uphill in both directions!*

*Please can you get SCC Highways contractor's drainage team to investigate and propose a remedy. Can we please have a brief report of their finding and a date for proposed remedy.*

#### **2. Potholes and the need for a Planned Campaign for Competent Long Term Repairs throughout the Parish**

*In addition, despite my defence of your limited budget and the extreme wet weather causing an increase in repair demand in my mail to the resident with recent tyre damage Common Lane, the continued increasing deterioration of the roads within the parish is generating considerable concern and criticism.*

*Mill Lane [for its full length between Lower Penkridge Road and the A449; I recall your systems splits it into 2 entities] is as bad as I can ever remember, mostly at locations of potholes that I reported in detail in February 2024; see the attached 46 page pictorial report. Most of these were subsequently repaired by AMEY and have subsequently failed. I heard rumours that their contract had been made more rigorous [Cllr Humphreyson may be prepared to comment] and that failures in this short period are now subject to AMEY undertaking competent, long term, repairs at no cost to SCC Highways. IF this is true [and I think it should be], can your team and Cllr Humphreyson please take this matter up urgently with the SCC Term Contractor and instruct them to schedule competent, long term, repairs as soon as weather conditions permit hot asphalt repairs, to properly prepared cut edged holes, with compacted sub-base before the hot asphalt placement /compaction and with properly sealed edges.*

*We recently had extensive trenches in the roads and pavements within the parish as part of Openreach full fibre installations; their works appeared to be exemplary; I hope that they prove to be as long lived as they visually appear likely to be. They are a significant contrast to any of the AMEY repairs we have seen in the parish.*

*Can you please give us an indication of what is in place to instigate a planned focussed campaign of rolling competent, long term, repairs throughout the parish with the reasonable expectation that we can advise residents that following this campaign they may have several years without such major pothole risks to the lives of cyclists and pedestrians, along with frequent and costly damage to vehicles and the possibility of collisions between impatient drivers attempting to avoid potholes without stopping to let others pass.*

As always, with best wishes

Parish Councillor Acton Trussell, Bednall and Teddesley Hay PC

## **Acton Trussell, Bednall and Teddesley Hay Parish Council March 2026 Highways Update**

March 6<sup>th</sup> 2026 Good afternoon,

Thank you for your email.

We did receive your previous correspondence and appreciate your positive feedback regarding the drainage improvements on Mill Lane. Please accept our apologies for the delay in responding; we are currently experiencing a very high volume of incoming enquiries.

### **1. Flooding on Bednall Road (Between Top Road and Trussell Grange)**

Thank you for the local information provided. We will add this location to our list for further investigation. I have copied in Diane, the Local Highway Officer, who will visit the site at the earliest opportunity.

We will arrange for the SCC Highways drainage team to inspect the site, identify any issues, and propose a suitable remedy.

At present, we have 113 drainage priorities locally. These are prioritised based on risk (e.g., road currently closed, full carriageway flooding, or property flooding) etc. Due to the exceptionally high volume of urgent issues, we are unable to provide specific timeframes for individual sites. As you will appreciate, some drainage issues can be resolved in a day, while others require more extensive work over several weeks.

### **2. Potholes and Need for a Planned Programme of Long Term Repairs**

We are currently dealing with unprecedented volumes of both public reports and defects, —around three times higher than usual. Thank you for taking the time to compile the detailed report. Our inspection team categorises defects based on several criteria including depth, size, and location in the c/way. From the images, many (not all) appear to be edge of carriageway issues, falling as lower priority (Category 3) defects.

As your report dates from February, some of these defects may already have been picked up. However, our resources are currently focused on Emergency, Category 1 and 2 defects.

Due to the volume of high risk defects across the network, many repairs being carried out at present are temporary in nature. While permanent repairs are always our preferred approach, temporary works allow us to manage immediate safety risks. However, this is not efficient due to travel time and the temporary nature of the repair. As the weather improves and seasonal programmes commence, we expect to begin reducing the number of temporary repairs and progressing more permanent works.

Regarding your request for information on a planned programme of long term repairs:

#### **Previous Maintenance History**

- **Acton Trussell** last received carriageway maintenance in 2014 through preventative treatments (Surface dressing) etc.
- **Bednall** received preventative treatment in 2015.

Condition survey data confirms these areas are generally holding up well, with some isolated deterioration where routine repairs may be required.

#### **Future Planned Interventions**

- **C0279 Mill Lane, Acton Trussell** – Condition data indicates greater deterioration; as a 2014 treatment site, the next lifecycle intervention is due between 2026–2029.
- **CC0278 Common Lane, Bednall** – Next lifecycle intervention due between 2027–2030.

Following discussions with our engineering team, we are proposing to consider treatment of both areas—as well as possibly some of the wider network in the **2028 treatment season**. Preparatory patching works would therefore take place during **2027 and early 2028 with full dressing taking place during the 2028 season**.

#### **Ongoing Routine and Reactive Works**

Routine pothole repairs and patching will continue throughout, based on inspector assessments and public reports. We encourage reporting of defects; however, multiple reports of the same issue can slow down processing. If the system shows a defect as “reported,” no further action from residents is required.

For context, our inspection team at Gailey is currently working through 2,300 live reports, and we received over 8,000 County wide reports during February alone.

I hope the above information is helpful. Please let me know if you need any further clarification.

Kind regards, Community Highway Manager, Community Highways Team, Cannock & South Staffs, SCC

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ALSO see

<https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/newsroom/2026/major-investment-fix-more-roads-improve-staffordshires-highways-and-boost-transport-0>

*DO use the on line Report It system*

<https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-transport/highway-maintenance/problems-roads/report-it-explained>

*Or perhaps better use the 'phone app MyStaffs that permits you to photograph and pin point the location of the pot hole or other defect from your Apple or Android phone*

<https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/mystaffs/id1533665254>

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.staffscc.mystaffs>