



Road / Environmental Report - January 2026

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 reports. Ownership is still being looked at.

FARRINGDON CROSSROADS (NORTH to the 30mph limit): Parking near crossroads (Shirnall Hill) now improved with most local residents now displaying a parking permit. The abandoned car in Chase Field car park that was reported now has a removal notification attached from EHDC. Recently reports have been received of vehicles being parked adjacent to the crossroads causing site lines to be blocked, especially Brightstone Lane.

NORTH TO CHAWTON ROUNDABOUT: The ditches along the A32 are still a problem with litter, rubbish and vegetation in them. It appears that the onus is still on the landowners to clear. Small fly tipping heaps have been cleared but other rubbish remain. 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 at the top of Gosport Road from the roundabout has been completed.

BRIGHTSTONE LANE: Repaired BT cables following fallen tree still lie on the verge within 1/2m of the road edge will no doubt be damaged when verge is cut again. No action as yet by Openreach following reporting. 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 are however requesting a formal application for a new site entrance which was been added; no application seen yet. Apparently planning are reviewing the site conditions of approval.

SHIRNALL HILL: Drains at Chase view being monitored.

CHURCH ROAD and PARSONAGE CLOSE: Work continues 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 otherwise excessive runoff from fields above Hall lane will cause local flooding.

GASTON LANE: Gaston lane (Caker stream bridge) is still CLOSED until bridge repaired. January 2026 had been promised. If the planned solar farm application is passed then during the site construction, this lane will probably become one way with Hall Lane also one way.

HALL LANE: Water leak on first corner appears to have been repaired. 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.

LOWER PLAYING FIELD / PLAY GROUND: The zip wire and roundabout have been removed and replaced with new play equipment suitable for older / toddler children. A new small 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 will be replaced shortly.

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.

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). To report footpath problems use the Parish Website <https://farringdonpc.org/>

FLOODING - Water table NORMAL: Latest statement from HCC: *Planning permission for the proposed final section of works was granted in September 2024. Although Hampshire County Council has powers as Lead Local Flood Authority to construct the final section of works as permitted by the planning permission, it's acknowledged this would be against the wishes of some landowners and the parish council. This final section of works will NOT therefore be constructed and an alternative plan to deploy emergency measures as and when the need arises will be implemented instead.*

Local water table level recorded as 101m AOD on January 1st (93.72 to 113.45 is normal range) High December, January and February month rainfalls can indicate a possible flood situation. *Last year the total amount of rainfall measured in my garden was 895mm and is the lowest for 5 years. Lowest temperature was -5 deg and highest was 35 deg. (my measurements!)*

PLEASE REPORT ANY ROAD/ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS DIRECTLY TO ME
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Compiled Cclr David Williams