



## **Road / Environmental Report – MAY 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.

**KITCOMBE LANE:** No reports of any problems. Monitoring of off-road vehicles continues with no recent reports. Ownership of land adjacent to lane in Lords Wood is still being looked at.

**FARRINGDON CROSSROADS (NORTH to the 30mph limit):** Problems with large lorries/vans trying to access Farringdon Industrial Centre having to reverse onto the A32 crossroads from Brightstone Lane has been highlighted and are still happening. Parish Council did provide a new small sign indicating No Access, but this has disappeared!

**NORTH TO CHAWTON ROUNDABOUT:** The ditches along the A32 are draining rapidly but remain blocked with debris etc. 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.

**BRIGHTSTONE LANE:** Two new 'This road is Liable to Flood' signs erected by HCC, either side of the dip at the old bridge indicating possible flooding which can happen any time of year due to excessive rainfall with flash floods. Depth gauge was reported as obstructed by vegetation Oct. 25 (still waiting for action). The lane runoffs and drains have been cleared but most of the side ditches have not. Edges of lane have fallen/cut tree branches so be aware. New fallen branches near old bridge. Repaired BT cables following fallen tree still lie on the verge within ½ m of the road edge will no doubt be damaged when verge is cut again. No action as yet by Openreach following reporting. Reports have been received on speeding cars using the lane late evenings and quad bikes not slowing down for horse riders. The ownership of the various parcels of land associated with Lords Wood is still being investigated. Planning has visited one site and two enforcement notices were placed on site but the owner has appealed against both notices, and so the six-month compliance period will be put on-hold until the Planning Inspectorate issue a decision on the matter.

**SHIRNALL HILL:** Drains at Chase view being monitored. An overhanging fallen tree on left hand side has been highlighted but at present does not cause a problem. HCC have agreed to install 2 advance warning blue signs for the 7.5 tonne weight restriction (for Upper Farringdon) on the A32.

**CHURCH ROAD and PARSONAGE CLOSE:** Work continues at Massey's Folly.

**THE STREET:** The fallen tree has been removed. The ownership of Stank Lane boundaries was investigated but came to no conclusion at this time. Locally landowners are responsible for side hedges whilst HCC maintains bridleway to 2.5m. Collapsed road edges reported to HCC but they have been classed as not requiring any action.

**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:** Caker stream bridge is still **CLOSED** until replacement culvert bridge built – works started April 27<sup>th</sup> for up to 8 weeks. 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 (although the PC are trying to get this changed via the Transport Management Plan – but we do not hold much sway).

**HALL LANE - potholes!** Extensive flooding occurred with soak away blocked. (water now drained). Attempts have been made to clear the mud and debris from soak away. HCC have been active in filling huge ruts along edge of road, but this is a temporary solution until Gaston Lane is no longer closed. Solar farm application for fields adjacent this lane and Gaston Lane now being discussed. The SDNP sign at the junction of Hall Lane and the B3006 was 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 & PLAYGROUND:** Parish Council have removed the orange safety netting as the water levels have receded. Broken wooden bollards adjacent to the road are being checked and will be replaced shortly. Swing legs have been sanded and had 1<sup>st</sup> coat of Funky Frog green paint. This will have a 2<sup>nd</sup> coat when time permits.

**COMMUNITY VILLAGE GARDEN:** Garden work by volunteers continues and working party dates have been advertised on FVWAG/Facebook etc. If you help please contact Steph via email [steph.mccarthy69@gmail.com](mailto:steph.mccarthy69@gmail.com). 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. On local footpaths 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: Flood Alert cancelled - we did not flood! :** Local water table level recorded as 112.5m AOD, (93.72 to 113.45 is normal range).

Compiled Cllr David Williams

PLEASE REPORT ANY ROAD/ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS DIRECTLY TO ME:  
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