

OCTOBER 2022 UPDATE ON HIGHWAYS ISSUES

Since my last report in August 2022, I have reported 3 further Highway issues to KCC. This increases the grand total to date to 101.

The new reports were for: -

Lack of signs in Sutton Baron Road as it approaches Pond Farm Road
Bannister Hill pavement overgrown with vegetation
Borden Lane 30mph sign overgrown with vegetation

90 of the 101 have now been dealt with either in a satisfactory manner or with a satisfactory explanation. 11, including 3 above are still outstanding.

I have been informed by KCC that the blocked footpaths ZR121, ZR128 and ZR125 have been cleared.

The 30mph signs in Chestnut Street have either been cleared of vegetation or renewed. Clearance of the footpath has also taken place.

The blocked drain in The Street will be cleared in the next three months. The school sign in School Lane has yet to be moved. No further work has been undertaken on the diseased tree in Wrens Road. Other works still to be completed include the white line renewals in Pond Farm Road, Wises Lane and Oad Street. No progress has been reported on flooding issues at Danaway or at the junction of Wises Lane and the A2.

Provision of Bench at junction of Mountview and The Street

The provision of a bench at this junction was agreed recently by Council meeting and KCC Highways have given permission for it to be located within their land. Any decisions about the standard of Bench, estimates have been obtained, has been deferred until the provision of bus routes has been decided by KCC.

M2/Junction 5 Stockbury roundabout improvements

Councillors will be aware that the eastbound slip road from the M2 to the A249 is to be closed for some 18 weeks. Oad Street has also been shut since the 5th September for 5 weeks. Cllr Sims and I meet with a representative from Grahams on the 13th September to voice our concern about these proposals. Unfortunately, despite asking for a further meeting with the project engineer to determine the reasoning behind such a long closure of the slip roads there has been no further contact.

A letter of complaint regarding the proliferation of highway works on alternatives routes, namely the A2, has been sent to a number of parties but as yet no replies received.

Information about road closures and diversions continues to be supplied by Grahams and are displayed by the Clerk on our various social media pages. I should add that the person who was our main contact point Ellen Dennison has left Grahams and has now been replaced with Dan Cawthra contactable through daniel.cawthra@graham.co.uk

After repeated contact with National Highways and KCC Highways with regard to the missing link at Oad Street assurances have been received from KCC Highways that when options for this have been developed the Parish Council will be contacted for their views.

KCC Highways Service

I can report that a meeting between Cllr Sims, Cllr Baldock and I with KCC Highways officers was carried out on the 12th September. They agreed to investigate our proposals in the Highway Improvement Plan. To facilitate this a number of speed measurements are being conducted during October throughout the Parish. I hope to be in a position to report further progress in the coming months.

Waiting restrictions in The Street, Borden.

It was agreed by Council and is included in the Highways Improvement Plan agreed in April 2022 that the current No Waiting restrictions are to be extended in The Street, Borden by some 50 metres. KCC Highways have commented that residents of The Street may oppose this extension and suggest that the Parish Council carry out an informal consultation considering a 10-meter extension as well as a 50-meter extension. Council is asked to discuss this issue. Attached is a map showing current road widths.

Speedwatch

Council decide in August that the Speedwatch scheme needed someone to organise the various aspects. I am still seeking a volunteer from the community is asked to supervise/co-ordinate the scheme. Overall responsibility will still rest with the Council. Having no success whilst contacting a number of trained Speedwatch volunteers it is proposed that a request is placed on various social media platforms.

John Fassenfelt October 2022.

