

North Cadbury and Yarlington Parish Council

Highways Report October 2023

Apologies for the lateness of this report but I wanted to see the outcome of the flood prevention work mentioned below.

My main concern at present is the state of some of the culverts/drains across the parish. As I mentioned in September we are still suffering from the aftermath of the May flooding with some drains still completely blocked and there has been a spate of correspondence between John Nicholson (Highways) and residents both in Woolston and North Cadbury.

Yesterday I met with a Wessex Water team at the site on Cary Road North Cadbury, next to the school, they explained that, on examination, the main drainage pipe here had fractured in two places, mainly caused by the roots of overhanging trees. They spent the whole day working on this and have managed to insert two plastic sleeves into the pipe which should have the effect of preventing further flooding but also avoids the need to excavate a three metre deep trench along the Cary Road which would have caused havoc in an area already suffering from heavy congestion.

As far as Woolston is concerned I am now assured that a jetting facility will be with us next week (30th October) to attempt to clear the drainage systems at the junction of the Woolston Road with Ferngrove Lane.

As far as road surfaces are concerned we are still awaiting repairs in Yarlington and I have reported the state of both Ferngrove Lane (Woolston end) and Smallway Lane (East) where the road surfaces are breaking up.

Shortly after our last meeting I met with Henry Hobhouse to discuss the state of the bridge on Cary Road NC which was damaged during the May flood` - we both agreed that repair appears necessary despite the Council saying not. Henry promised to take this forward with John Nicholson which, I understand, he has now done and there would appear to be some controversy between JN and the bridge team over this matter. I will be following this up.

Hedge trimming has started across the parish and I am hoping to see some ditches cleared over the coming months.

The newly installed grit box at the top of Parish Hill North Cadbury is due to be filled over the next few weeks.

John Rundle