

North Cadbury and Yarlington Parish Council

Highways Report April 2025

There is not a lot to report this month as the general state of our lanes is quite good but a drive around the parish yesterday revealed the following:-

Top dressing of Golf Links Road is very welcome as the surface in places was poor (we could do with a similar exercise on some other lanes)

Potholes have been marked for repair in the following places:

Cutty Lane North Cadbury

Brookhampton Road

Woolston Road (near Manor Farm)

Frog Lane and up into Smallway Lane.

The surface in Ferngrove Lane is beginning to break up in places and has been reported.

Guidelines for Repairing Potholes

Councillors will probably have read in the press that the government has now issued some guidelines relating to local authorities handling of the pothole problem. Starting this month local authorities will begin receiving their portion of the government's £1.6 billion highway maintenance funding, which includes an additional £500 million if required.

According to the government this will fix more than 7 million potholes a year. However in order to secure the full amount of this funding councils must publish yearly progress reports and if they fail to do so part of the funding will be withheld.

Initial reports must be published on the council's website by 30th June this year - these reports must detail how much the council is spending, how many potholes they have filled, what percentage of their roads are in what condition and how they are minimising disruption for drivers.

Interestingly the guidelines state that councils must also prove that they are involving communities in decisions about what work should be done and where.

Change of Personnel at Somerset Highways

Councillors will have seen the recent report that John Nicholson will be moving to a new geographical area with effect from 1st May and his replacement as Assistant Highways Service Manager will be Mrs Tracy Harris. I met Tracy in the aftermath of the 2023 floods and she seemed very professional and approachable - she will be our main point of contact for the future but any email correspondence should be addressed to the countyroads-southsom@somerset.gov.uk. John has been very helpful to me on many highway problems over the years and I have written to him wishing him well for the future.

John Rundle

