

JANUARY 2023 UPDATE ON HIGHWAYS ISSUES

Since my last report in December 2022, I have reported 2 further Highway issues to KCC. This means there is an increase to a grand total of 108.

These 2 new issues are:-

Mud and debris on highway hiding a big pothole at Pond Farm Road by the Church.

Warning sign on Oad Street just before hamlet of Oad Street has been damaged again despite KCC Highways reporting to me that it had been repaired from my complaint in December 2022.

99 of the 108 have now been dealt either in a satisfactory manner or with a satisfactory explanation. 9 are still outstanding including the 2 new ones. The water leak in Pond Farm Road by the Church has been repaired but there is still a large pothole to be repaired as mentioned above.

The 30mph signs in Pond Farm Road just as you enter the village are obscured by vegetation and the 30mph sign on the road is worn out and awaiting the Spring for improvements

The mud in Hearts Delight has been cleared up. The cutting back of the vegetation around the 30mph sign in Borden Lane has also taken place. The blocked drain in The Street has also been cleared.

The provision of new signs at the junction of Sutton Baron Road and Pond Farm Road has yet to happen. The school sign in School Lane near the village has yet to be moved although the small solar panel on the school sign at the other end of the school has been replaced after it was stolen. Other works still to be completed include the white line renewals in Pond Farm Road, and Oad Street.

Provision of Bench at junction of Mountview and The Street

The provision of a bench at this junction was agreed recently by the Council and it has been decided to provide the Bench within the shelter. I shall report verbally at the meeting in January about possible types of benches and their costs.

M2/Junction 5 Stockbury roundabout improvements

As a result of my report in December 2022 a letter was written to KCC Highways urging them to do an assessment of risks to residents around the use of these roads as a diversion given the extra flows of up to 30,000 vehicles a day and recent accidents

Information about road closures and diversions continues to be supplied by Grahams and are displayed by the Clerk on our various social media pages.

There has been no further information from KCC Highways with regard to the missing link at Oad Street.

KCC Highways Service

A number of speed measurements were conducted during October by KCC Highways throughout the Parish and the raw data was passed to me in late November. These have been studied and a further meeting of the Highway Improvement Group is scheduled for mid-January to discuss these results. A verbal report will be made to the January 2023 Council meeting.

Waiting restrictions in The Street, Borden.

It was agreed by Council in October to consult with local residents about the proposal to extend the waiting restrictions in The Street, Borden by some 50 metres. Letters were posted to 17 affected properties in The Street. There has been 6 responses so far, 35%, 4 supporting the extension and 2 objecting and these are attached as Appendix 1. A decision on this issue was deferred in December 2022 but Councillors will now need to decide in the light of this consultation whether or not to proceed with asking KCC Highways to extend the existing no waiting restrictions in The Street by 50 meters.

Key Street Roundabout Improvements

I have received no further update other than that reported in December from KCC Highways with regard to the proposed improvements to the Key Street roundabout. I will keep Councillors update as soon as I find out further information.

Speedwatch

Initial work to get the Speedwatch scheme off the ground has started. The new Co-ordinator has been contacting volunteers to see if they are still available. Equipment has been passed over and he will be continuing his development as Coordinator.

John Fassenfelt January 2023.

Appendix 1 – Responses to Consultation about extending No Waiting restrictions on The Street

See next page

Suvey returned	Do you live in the Street	Do you object or support 50m	Comments	Method of response
1	Yes	Support	<p>We live in one of the bungalows opposite the recreation park and have noticed how many near misses there has been when cars are overtaking the parked cars near the park entrance and cars driving past Home Farm.</p> <p>I totally agree with the proposed Yellow Line extension.Has it been considered the adverse effect this would have on the opposite side of the road. If cars were to be parked there this would cause vehicles to veer into the road past Home Farm when heading towards the Church.</p> <p>I am happy for the parish council members to discuss this issue with me,either by e-mail,phone or in person.</p>	Email
2	Yes	Support	<p>Please can I ask, was there a summary document published with recommendations from the main survey we completed a few months ago? I have assumed that extending the yellow lines in The Street is probably one of the outcomes, but I haven't seen anything circulated following the survey.</p> <p>My partner and I feel strongly there should be a speed hump across the road from The Forge to Holly Tree Cottage (or close by). Is this something the Parish Council is considering?</p>	Email
3	Yes	Support	<p>This Road is getting very buzy these day as many drivers use it as a Rat run. It really needs parking only on one side as Buses often can not get though. Worry is a Fire Engine will be stuck one day.</p>	on-line
4	Yes	Support	<p>Hi, I support double yellow line's extension for safety of children's and everyone else using the park.I would like to be extended all the way to the church and install a zebra crossing on front of the park .Thanks!</p>	on-line
5	Yes	Object	<p>we object to the proposal as stated as this will impact how we safely access and egress our drives at St Martins Cottage and Lodge. I have a disabled son and on many occasions we have either not been able to access or leave our property especially when a wedding or christening is being held because the parked cars do not consider the drop kerb as an access point and leave enough room for us to safely leave</p> <p>I would rather offer an alternative and place the planned double yellow lines on the opposite side of the road in front of the house's</p> <p>This will also have the added benefit of speed reduction in the street by means of a natural chicane.</p> <p>I would welcome the opportunity to explain this alternative suggestion if needed.</p>	on-line
6	Yes	Object	<p>It will dissuade people from visiting our village and lovely playstool. What the village really needs is a proper carpark.</p>	on-line