

## **Meeting – Drainage off the Highway**

**Monday 31 August 2020, 11:00 am via telephone conference**

**Present:** Cllrs Simon Rake, Alan Mallyon, and Jack Perry, & Annette Thom (Clerk)

1. Flooding in Blackawton parish is run-off – rather than water rising up from rivers.
2. No issues reported to BPC related to heavy rain of 13 and 14 August.
3. The councillors are grateful for the parish lengthsman’s enthusiasm and energy.
4. Approximately one third of the parish lengthsman’s hours have been used so far (of both grant and BPC funds). Allocated by financial year ie to 31 March 2021.
5. Parish drainage issues seem improved – supported by the absence of reports of flooding related to the recent heavy rain.
6. Hedge trimming will start soon and cause blockages.
7. **DCC**
  - 7.1. The parish lengthsman has reported that currently blocked drains are full of road grit, and has suggested asking DCC to sweep up after roadworks.
  - 7.2. DCC’s lengthsman – BPC has so far not been successful in communicating directly with the team. The meeting agreed to see if BPC can ask DCC’s lengthsman to work on the Strete road and Five Mile Lane - so that their work is focussed on the roads which are unsuitable for the parish lengthsman.
8. **Priorities**
  - 8.1. BPC’s priorities for buddle hole clearance/ drainage works are the Forces, Woodford and Quarry roads, as the main roads used by residents, followed by Millcombe and Cotterbury, then the linking roads.
  - 8.2. It was agreed to ask the parish lengthsman for their recommendation for infrastructure (grant) projects on these routes. Cllr Rake said that the long drain/gully between the village and Woodford needs work, and should be on the list.
9. **Potholes**

Cllrs discussed bad potholes on Millcombe / Shepleigh to Bow Bridge, Bow to Cotterbury, and Bow to Dallacombe. Cllrs Perry and Mallyon will report them on DCC’s website. Cllrs understand that the Dallacombe road is a public owned highway to two properties, that a DCC engineer has visited the site, and that DCC won’t repair its badly potholed surface.
10. **Actions**
  - 10.1. Cllrs Perry and Mallyon will report potholes on DCC’s website.
  - 10.2. Clerk write to Parish Lengthsman – to give thanks, feedback and priorities, and to request list of priority infrastructure projects.
  - 10.3. Recommendations
    - DCC - ask DCC to sweep up after roadworks as a preventive measure.
    - DCC – ask DCC lengthsman to work on the Strete road and Five Mile Lane.
    - Add Dallacombe road to next Agenda – to see if BPC can assist in communication with DCC regarding achieving repair of the surface.
  - 10.4. Add possible grant for Blackawton photography project to next Agenda.