

Highways Report October 2023

Cllr Cunningham is now the Cabinet Member for Highways, Infrastructure and Sustainable Transport. Cllr Scott is now the Cabinet Member for Planning a Growing Economy. Therefore, I address highway issues to Cllr Cunningham now in addition to informing Cllr Stamp.

Alexandra Road pothole repairs are taking place over 2 days on 9th November, the road will be closed for this.

Witney Road is also being resurfaced; however, we have been informed that the request for bollards won't be progressed at this time.

We have been informed that the Local Highways Panel are not taking on any new cases now due to lack of funding, and as such we have been advised not to put anything through now. The Chief Officer and I did have a walk round with CET and SEPP to find a solution to the white lining delay and other parking/traffic issues around town. We were advised that parking bay marking is not a priority and is not necessarily needed, although the bays that are marked look tired and untidy, we have to decide if we want to spend our money on these areas.

After a meeting with Olive Porter, we were told that the town signs are not to highways standard. Olive did advise us that we can choose another site for town signs and suggesting thinking about a gate style sign, which gives us much more flexibility in terms of being able to add plants and additional signage. It was also confirmed that there is no licence in place for the boundary and we will need to apply once we have decided what we wish to do. We suggest the sites to be used for this is Southminster Road/The Cobbins on the grassed area and Maldon Road/Ferry Road.

Although it has been used by residents for a considerable time at the Millfields Caravan Site we have had confirmation that no Rights of Way exist here and therefore it is likely that this will not become available again once works have completed.

ECC have transferred £9 Million into the Capital Funding for addressing priority highway issues. Whether it trickles down to us is another matter.

Providence Car Park: the Chief Officer and myself have revisited the specification and have had site visits with 3 Contractors, Full quotes will be received by the end of November. The battle for EV charging units is still

ongoing, so we suggest that we run the ducting whilst we do the works, so the cables can be pulled through at a later stage.

I have had reports of blocked footpaths with vegetation. Footpath 14 which runs from Marsh Road to Romans Farm has been cleared now but am still waiting for others to be dealt with.