

Betchworth Parish Council- Highways & Transport Report November 2023

Speedwatch

The coordinator has completed further volunteer training & increased monitoring sessions are being initiated. We still await further signage to attach to street furniture showing that the roads are being monitored by Speedwatch teams. We will also pursue with the Police Borough Commander on support from full police presence for speeding offences on an occasional basis on the Village roads.

Station Road- damage to verge area opposite Fresh Connect Warehouse

Further damage is reported from long artic vehicles reversing into site & obstructing road traffic. Highways Engineer SCC agreed bollard provision to protect verge at summer inspection. SCC chased to expedite implementation.

Footpath from Coombe to Station

Summer inspection highlighted remedial work required to footpath on surfacing & width deficiencies. Helyn Clack has agreed to fund improvements. Due to wet weather conditions the path is flooded & does not offer the essential foot traffic route to the station/A25/schools . Walking in the road is very dangerous & unacceptable. Emergency surfacing of flooded area with material such as crushed concrete is required to restore safe pathway. Complaint escalated to Helyn Clack.

Pebblehill /Station Road drainage Problems

The road continues to have poor drainage. Residents' representative has referred poor cleaning performance of surface with MVDC which has received senior attention for improvement which will require road closure for mechanical removal of debris. However, drainage condition & performance of discharge is the responsibility of SCC who offered hydraulic suction but this has not been carried out. Some drains still flood, particularly opposite the warehouse development & investigation into breakage has not taken place despite this being reported to SCC some 2 years ago.

The blockages are exacerbated by loose material being washed down from The Coombe. This is a private road & therefore outside SCC powers to take action but situation for remedial steps should be considered by residents due to the nuisance being caused by condition of the private road.

Betchworth Station Car Park

The lack of parking at the station for commuter/leisure use of rail link & lack of short wait/disabled parking is of concern to Parish Council. The owners of the former goods yard appear to have reached agreement with NCP to set up a parking facility which would be welcomed & supported by Council subject to some safeguards in protecting adjoining properties within the scheme. MVDC Planning Officer has visited site & he reported that NCP accept need to obtain planning consent which is considered appropriate as there has been no activity on site for many years. Yard has recently been hardcore surfaced for proposed user.

Station House & Forecourt owners have indicated they will oppose the scheme as they have maintained that there are no rights of access over the forecourt to the Goods Yard. However, title investigation has revealed that this is incorrect with full rights being reserved out of sale of Station House / Forecourt in 1991 by British Railways Board.

The Street Road Markings

It is noted that the solid white line ordered along the road perimeter has been carried out. We still await the results of the skid test on the approach to Betchworth Bridge. Other renewal of worn road signage is still awaited.

We continue to be disappointed by the slow/lack of response from Highways on many outstanding maintenance issues of concern & these will be raised in a meeting with Helyn Clack.