

Betchworth Parish Council Highways Report July 2024

Pebblehill Embankment Failure

Following the tractor damage to the post & rail fencing at the top of the embankment, all that Highways have done is to place temporary barriers on the edge of the path. These are not secure & subject to movement with inadequate width for wheelchairs /mobility scooters & prams. The insecurity of the barriers could result in pedestrians falling into the road with fatal outcome.

Since the railing damage it is evident that the tractor impact also undermined support to the embankment which is rapidly eroding & has partly fallen into the road. This was reported to Highways as an urgent investigation priority, but their response is inadequate in just indicating they are carrying out an assessment in due course. This lack of urgency is unsatisfactory & strong representation has been made to County Cllr. Helyn Clack including the need to put the tractor driver's Insurers on notice of a claim as it not appropriate for SCC to fund repairs arising from this incident.

Verge Damage Opposite Something Special – Pebblehill

The frequent traversing by large vehicles of the verge has caused considerable damage & endangers pedestrians if the lorry overruns.

To endeavour to seek a satisfactory remedy a meeting has been arranged with the warehouse site owners.

Gateway at Junction of Station Road / A25

Highways called this proposal in & asserted that they must deal with it. The sign replacement at PC own cost is not on a main road & without risk can be replaced by our own contractor. We have taken issue with Highways edict & have requested Helyn Clack to obtain consent to us proceeding.

Goods Entrance to Knights Nursery Station Road

The continuing eyesore of the uncompleted dropped kerb / crossover remains of concern. This has been in evidence for months. Clerk to pursue with Knights & if appropriate refer to Helyn Clack as Highways Agreement may be long outstanding.

Betchworth Station Former Goods Yard

NCP had entered an arrangement with the owner of the site to operate a car park & in good faith had carried out surfacing ready to accommodate car parking with advertisement of the pricing. This is a much-needed facility widely supported by the community to offer commuter & leisure use potential of the line & improve passenger use of the station.

We note that the owners of the Station House have intervened & purchased the goods yard. Parishioners have expressed their strong disappointment at the loss of the benefit of parking at the station which will not now take place.

Improved Speed Repeater Signage in The Street

We are still seeking more frequent conspicuous signs & replacement of worn road markings particularly in view of the school presence.

Speedwatch

The coordinator has been approached to seek to schedule regular monitoring of traffic by volunteers.