

Coberley Parish – Minor Highways Issues

For Parish Council Meeting 21 August 2023

1. **Damaged signpost** at junction to Upper Coberley, directly opposite Cowley junction, on **A435**. DT advised PC meeting 23 March 2022 work to be carried out in new financial year.

DT: works order issued awaiting installation date from Ringway.

Works programme currently scheduled up to July, I would expect these works to be done in August, when the date is available I will confirm this with the parish.

ACTION: GCC Update please

2. **Warning signage on A435** stretch between Cowley and Coberley turnings. Damaged sign replaced, but matching set of signs to north of crossing has one sign which has completely faded and is totally illegible (presume horse-rider sign). DT advised PC meeting 23 March 2022 work to be carried out in new financial year.

DT: works order issued awaiting installation date from Ringway. Slacks barn directional sign ticket raised, works needs three-way lights to deliver.

1 & 2 we have joined these works together as the amount of traffic management required is significant and will move along the road so that we can deliver it with one episode of disruption – our streetworks team prefer this approach as it is difficult to get roadspace on the A435. We arrived at this design after one attempt at installing the warning signs, but we had to abandon the work due to bad weather. This will mean a delay in delivery of the works, but we will take this opportunity to change the sign posts as well as the signs whilst we have this enhanced traffic management arrangement.

Works programme currently scheduled up to July, I would expect these works to be done in August, when the date is available I will confirm this with the parish.

ACTION: GCC Update please.

3. **Dead ash tree** on verge on **Coberley Road** beside Ham Mead. DT advised PC meeting 23 March 2022 tree not on priority list but waiting inspection.

DT: no inspection feedback to date.

Job no 43085235 has been raised for this work, given the low category of the road it is not one of the priority ash die back sites (we do have lots of them!), the tree team have advised that it is likely to be April/May before this is delivered.

This tree work is in our ash dieback programme, it will not be programmed until ST have finished their works in the village, as we can't get the road-space until then.

ACTION: GCC Update please

4. **Junction of Close Farm Lane with main Coberley Road** review give way markings please. DT advised PC meeting 23 March 2022 work to be carried out in new financial year.

DT; works ticket raised for give way markings to be remarked. With our lining contractor to deliver.

It is my understanding that this junction was picked up a safety defect and then remarked earlier in this financial year – do you think that this has not been done.

I have bypassed the safety team and raised a ticket myself for this work to be done. I await delivery, should be this summer at the latest.

Confirmed not yet done. **WORK NOW COMPLETED. THANK YOU**

5. **A436/435 roundabout at Seven Springs.** Directional road markings to be assessed and repainted. DT advised PC meeting 23 March 2022 to be referred to Road Safety Team, consider road width and separation into 2 lanes. Summer 2022.

DT: the feedback from our road safety team was to have the markings changed to have the left lane as A436 (left turn arrow) and the right lane as A436 & A417 (straight on arrow). These marking would need to be supported by advance signage. We do then need to do checks on site to establish where the signing can go (and get a design for the sign), measure road widths to see how far back we can take the two lanes.

The new markings are proposed for the southbound approach to the northern roundabout. I think it might be worth adding the wording 'A435' to lane with the straight on arrow, too. These markings will be supported by the signing too and I would be inclined to add E (east) and W (west) to the A436 text on the sign for each lane to denote which way to go. I don't think there is space on the road to add this to the text on the road, but if we do have space then I will get it done.

I am minded to get all the road markings redone at both roundabouts, but this would not see any changes, just remarking what is there.

This is another planned resurfacing scheme that has fallen foul of the prolonged wet and cold weather that we have experienced this Autumn and Winter. Many lining schemes (especially those that will be delivered at night) will be carried over to the new financial year due to the back log of works that we need to deliver.

Awaiting road-space once the A435 works are complete, apologies but this one has been shuffled to the back of the pack due to those large works.

ACTION: PENDING A435 Charlton Hill completion. GCC Update please.

6. **Damaged gate posts** - Gated road and cattle grid, Coberley Road adjacent to Dowmans Barns. GCC Highways reports that site checked and whilst the gate post is damaged, it is safe and operational. Will be added to the list of minor works to deliver in the new financial year. However, the PC has reports that the gate does not latch properly (in order to be stock proof must be held closed with a rope or chain); Considered that it would be very difficult to open or close from horseback, hence not fit for purpose. Suggested that both gate and post should be replaced as a matter of urgency. **DT advised PC meeting 23 March 2022 work to be carried out in new financial year.**

DT: we will repair the gate with our Community Maintenance gang. Date to be supplied, but it will be done in the next month – 6 weeks.

Apologies, this is a scheme that we have earmarked for our Community Maintenance gang, this is still on their schedule of works to be done. I will ensure that they get round to doing this one. I get the gang once every three weeks as they are a shared resource, so apologies for not getting to this as I have planned.

Now considered that gate at western end of gated road also requires repair/replacement. Recommended that hanging of both gates is reversed (i.e. hang from post nearest grid) to give greater distance for horses from grids. Agreed with GCC PROW that both gates require bridle latches (see also item 7) Ringway assessing to confirm that structures gang can carry out the work. Has this been switch been run past the horse riding association? Only the arrangement of cattle grids and gates is pretty much standard and the latch being on the road side is probably arranged like this for a reason. **CPC 15 August: CPC suggested Highways/PROW should contact BHS. If CPC, please advise contact. No response to date. ACTION: GCC update please.**

7. **Restricted Byway at Dowmans Development.** PROW has been returned to original route, but a gate has been installed across it within the Dowmans development. PROW Officer to contact owner to consult on fitting a bridle latch which is required. **ACTION: GCC PROW to provide update please.**

8. **Leckhampton Hill Road. Pavement** from Ullenwood Court for quarter mile towards A436 junction impassable for wheelchair users due to overhanging vegetation and mud deposits (some work done). Poor road surface requires attention.

DT: has arranged for a safety inspection of this footway and vegetation. We did carry out some clearing and footway repairs here by the community maintenance gang in the previous financial year. **ACTION: GCC update please.**

The level of work required here to is significant to bring this footpath to a desirable level is beyond simple maintenance work that our defect gangs could deliver – particularly at this location. There are a few elements of work, such as siding back the footway, clearing vegetation and then work on the surface of the footpath.

This work will require significant investment, involve prolonged periods of traffic management and disruption to the travelling public and be a resource intensive job. I have to be frank that such a scheme is currently on my list of maintenance works to consider in the new financial year and nothing is programmed or planned yet. There are a number of factors that I will have to contend and consider when planning such a likelihood of any road resurfacing scheme and what other road closures or traffic management is present either on the road or on the surrounding network. We may be able to deliver piecemeal improvements along the route, but a full overhaul of the pavement here is going to be more tricky to deliver.

Working with our PROW team to get this done.

ACTION: GCC update please

9. **Hartley Lane.** Review of weight/size restriction signage required. Recent incident with large curtain-sided lorry. 7.5T sign at A435 end should be repositioned. No signage at Leckhampton Hill end. (only signage is at either end of Leckhampton Hill Road). **ACTION:** GCC to review please.

Items 8 & 9 (now 9 & 10): I have asked the TRO team for a copy of the 7.5T weight limit Order so that we can check the extents and exactly what roads are covered. We will then audit the existing signage and make sure they are consistent and correct. We'll double check with the parish council before making any changes. I suspect that the village is included in the Lorry Management Zone and so the terminals for the Traffic Order are beyond the limit of the village, but I will confirm this when I have checked the Traffic Orders.

We will carry out an assessment of the traffic orders and signing in the new financial year when we have the new funding for signing and lining works. The 7.5T weight limit encompasses Hartley Lane and Leckhampton Hill, hence why there is no entry/terminal sign for the weight limit at the Hartley Lane/Leckhampton Hill junction. The signs will be straightened and repaired as required.

ACTION: GCC update please.

10. **Farm Vehicle Warning Sign, A435** opposite side of road to Slacks Barn/junction for Hilcot & Upper Coberley. Sign has twisted and faces into field. Appears to require firmer fixing as occasional attempts to reposition sign fail as it twists back again. **ACTION:** GCC to secure sign please. To be delivered with other A435 signing works as per items 1 & 2.

Works programme currently scheduled up to July, I would expect these works to be done in August, when the date is available I will confirm this with the parish.

WORK COMPLETED. THANK YOU

11. **Coberley Mill Lane.** Surface of lane is in poor condition and hazardous to vehicles.

Medium and long term maintenance of this rural class 5 highway is under review by a variety of highway officers. Update to be provided in due course.
ACTION: GCC to review and carry out appropriate repairs

12. **Class 5 road from Coberley Mill** west towards Cowley Lane. Number of ash trees have dieback, one also has significant fungal issues. It is a very serious hazard, a very large tree with branches overhanging the lane. Issue raised with GCC by Coberley Mill, ref 11395193.

Further assessment by our arboriculturist is scheduled to take place as part of our ash die back programme. Response is due to go the member of the public who made the report.

ACTION: GCC to investigate urgently and carry out necessary work to make safe.

13. **Coberley Road.** Heap of planings left on roadside following resurfacing still to be removed by contractor.

Under investigation.

ACTION: GCC to update please

14. **Coberley Road.** Surface opposite Dowmans development requires repair where utilities trench dug.

Under investigation

ACTION: GCC to update please

15. **A436. Eastbound carriageway** of section between Golf Club earthworks entrance and Seven Springs very muddy (inc signage). Please ensure contractor cleans vehicle wheels and road.

DT has contact number for the contractor's site manager, I make contact every time that I see or get reports of mud on the road here. We have established that they do have wheel-washing facilities on site and a sweeper on permanent placement to deal with mud. This site is continually under review.

Road surface condition improved, - thank you for your intervention, - but roadside signage very muddy and in some cases almost illegible. Requires cleaning please. **ACTION:** GCC

16. **Hartley Lane.** Landowner has suggested passing places created to minimise verge damage. Offered to work with GCC.

If you could pass me their contact details I will be happy to have a discussion with the landowner. **CPC provided contact information.**

ACTION: GCC to follow up please

17. **Hartley Lane.** Discussed with Charlton Hill team (Steve Cole, Assistant Project Manager – Major Projects) that Hartley Lane verges and road edges have suffered serious deterioration due to heavy 2-way volume of displaced

traffic using verges to pass. Will require reinstatement & repair at end of project October 2023. [ACTION: GCC Highways](#)