

HIGHWAYS REPORT

A few updates following the recent SLR meeting (see minutes sent out by Clerk on 13 June):

Rectory Hill – Re-surfacing of the worst patch on the bend at the bottom of the hill has now taken place. However, another poor patch, slightly higher up, was left untreated. Eleanor and I met Andrew Turner, the new head of ES Highways, on site last Thursday. Andrew agreed that both areas should have been completed. Hopefully, we won't have to wait too long before work on the second patch takes place. We also discussed the need to properly locate, map and clear the drains at the bottom of Rectory Hill.

Road Closure – Openreach will be closing Rectory Hill 11-14 July.

Eleanor and I discussed with Andrew Turner a display requirement for more precise information regarding road closures.

Cackle St drainage works – investigative works on Cackle St between the junction with Rectory Hill and the junction at Twelve Oaks is scheduled for 9-16 September. The contractors have a permit to work a full day. We await confirmation, but assume school buses will be diverted, along with other traffic, down Rectory Hill/Jack Fullers/Hollingrove Hill/Hollingrove Lane re-joining Cackle St at Twelve Oaks.

Observatory Road drainage – work is scheduled for late August

Twelve Oaks Fingerpost – after protracted and utterly exasperating negotiations, we finally have permission to re-site the replacement fingerpost more centrally within the grass triangle. That we have managed to extricate ourselves - and Douglas Andrews - from the mother of bureaucratic jungles (not to mention a permit fee of £431) is thanks to Eleanor who was finally able to bring common sense to bear at ES Highways.

Visibility at Darwell Crossroads – Following a request at the SLR meeting, the steward visited the junction but reported no visibility problem. We requested a follow up visit – at a different time of day when the road edge was in shade – was requested. He reported the same.

Himalayan Balsam – ES Highways do not intend to take action. To be discussed: possible involvement by Brightling Environmental Group.