

The first three items cover issues raised at the February Parish Council meeting.

Pedestrian crossing, Babraham Road

Concern was expressed that the yellow flashing lights at the newly installed pedestrian crossing in Babraham Road, Sawston that is, the crossing close to the junctions of Babraham Road with Queensway and Churchfield Avenue did not seem as bright as those at other pedestrian crossings in Sawston, and were not always easy to see particularly in daylight.

The following replies were received from Ben Jakes, Commission Officer, highways Service:

"I am double checking with the person that installed these units that the lamps used are to our spec, and I shall have a visit to see if they seem acceptable."

and later

"I have looked at the units on the system and on site. The inventory says that both sets of crossings on Babraham Road, have the same lamps in, driving up to the crossing (from High Street) I could clearly see them before getting too close to the crossing. Therefore, I am happy with the lamps in the crossing"

Road repairs Princess Drive and Woodland Road (part)

Tony set out local concerns in an email to Peter J Taylor as follows:

"There have been local concerns for some time about road conditions in Princess Drive and the lower house number cul-de-sac in Woodland Road, Sawston. About two years ago plans showed that Princess Drive was to be re-surfaced at a cost of about £100,000, but in the event only some patching work was carried out. The road surface is particularly bad near the junction of Princess Drive with Woodland Road, and poor in that section close to the junction with Edinburgh Avenue.

Woodland Road was also due to be re-surfaced at about the same time as Princess Drive. This was done in the most part but no work was carried out on the cul-de-sac at the lower house number end of Woodland Road.

Severe concerns were expressed at a recent meeting of Sawston Parish Council about both Princess Drive and the part of Woodland Road referred to above. The Parish Council want to have a site meeting with you to address their concerns about these two roads, and to see what action will be taken to address their and residents' concerns. I understand that there may be some insurance claims submitted in relation to damage caused by these very poor road surfaces."

Peter J Taylor's response was as follows:

"The only thing I can do is keep having the potholes filled if they are reported on our system. When I get a patching budget I hopefully can have the worst area's sorted out. I can have a

meeting with the Parish Council but they already know that we only have a small budget for carriageway patching.”

Continued flooding at the bottom of Huckeridge Hill

Brian Hefferenan from the County Council has responded to continuing concerns by saying: “As far as I am aware the landowners of Deal Farm and their agents are currently waiting for a planning application to be determined that by the local planning authority, South Cambs before carrying out the necessary works to reinstate the damaged drainage pipe at the entrance to the site. This should have the effect of draining the highway better. I will chase the landowner’s agents to get a more comprehensive update.”

A1307 Local Liaison Forum (LLF)

Last month we reported that the March meeting of the City Deal Executive Board decided that the LLF should organise a series of workshops to consider the proposals set out in the Board’s agenda papers and other proposals that might come forward from the LLF. The first of these workshops was held on 6 April where the focus was on thinking about what other issues / locations / potential solutions should be considered. Notes of the meeting will be circulated and follow-up workshops with a more geographical focus will be held in late May and early June.

Greenways

Francis Burkitt, Vice Chair of the City Deal Executive Board, has just sent out a letter to parish councils updating them on the Greenways Project. A report on Greenways was produced for the County Council in the Autumn of 2016 and a copy of this report is a separate attachment with this report.

The City Deal Executive Board has agreed funding for more developmental work to be carried out. As the Burkitt letter indicates, the Greenways issue is at the concept stage, no decisions have been made, and some of the proposals may not be able to be implemented. The letter also states that “it is too early to assess the total project cost, but it might be in the region of £10m+, and we will have to find the money for that in due course. I hope that the Greater Cambridge City Deal’s Tranche 2 money (for 2020–2024) will pay for most of it, but we will also be applying to Government schemes.”

In case you have not yet received this letter, a copy is attached to this report.

Tony Orgee and Gail Kenney
County Councillors for Sawston