

Attachment 1

North Cadbury & Yarlington Parish Council

Highways Report January 2022

Potholes

There is now a new system for reporting defects on the highway and it can be found under website services.somerset.gov.uk . The site also contains some guidance on how and when potholes are repaired and it suggests that reported defects should be surveyed within three days and potholes of 40mm or more should be repaired within 28 days. There is a caveat to that however, in that priority is given to heavily used roads, footpaths or cycle ways.

From my experience many of the roads in our parish do not fall within this criteria and therefore are not considered high priority.

A prime example of this is the “badger bend” along the Corkscrew which has been waiting repair for 18 months and whilst the actual badger run under the road cannot be repaired until permission is received to remove the sett - I was promised repair either side in early December and, in fact I was sent a copy of the instruction issued to the contractors but we still await the work to be carried out.

We have recently seen repairs carried out along the Cary Road in North Cadbury, in Lower North Town Lane and along Sticklepark Lane Yarlington.

I have recently driven all the roads in the parish and there has been considerable degradation along Hearn Lane and Frog lane, both in Galhampton and whilst reports have already been submitted on some of these defects I have now reported them again, particularly the dangerous hole that has appeared along the verge in Frog Lane.

I will keep up the pressure on John Nicholson and the SCC but I am afraid we are in the hands of the contractors.

Hedges

I am pleased to see that many of our hedgerows have now been trimmed although I continue to receive complaints about some areas and in the main these turn out to be hedges alongside private properties as opposed to field hedges and where possible I have spoken with the landowner. It is worth emphasising here that it is now the landowners responsibility to adequately maintain their boundaries and that the council no longer routinely carry out hedge trimming.

Signage

We still await improvements to the signage along Woolston Road and the addition of a new warning sign on the bend at Three Ashes but Gary Warren warned me back in the Autumn that the contractors have a long backlog of work and it could take some time.

John Rundle