

Clerks Report September 2021

Following the request from the NCC Rangers for areas to inspect I reported the following areas and can confirm these have all been inspected by the team, noting this was undertaken within days of my request.

Chapel Lane- the drains were cleared of overgrowth upon inspection, noting these are on the maintenance schedule for NCC to be cleared further in October.

Mill Street- there are numerous issues on the bend just before junction with Chantry Lane. The pathway is overgrown due to the hedge from the neighbouring property being overgrown and the ditch also has some issues. The Rangers confirmed the gully here is working well but in order to cut the verge to clear the path and to help with the ditch issues they have had to write to the resident on whose properties these sit. They are aware we have attempted to make contact previously with this resident without success but, unfortunately they do need to follow a process and the first step is to write the letter. The possible glimmer of hope here is that Tom Cox, our Highway Technician is unsure on whose land the ditch actually sits and is investigating further using various maps and documents. If it's on NCC land then they can proceed. Tom and myself are maintaining communications on these matters and updates will be provided.

Following concerns from residents raised via Councillors Bass and Jennings I have contacted the developers at Erne Farm via their website portal to state there are concerns regarding the mud on the road and also the speed of lorries through the village. I have yet to receive a response but I have noted the road seems clearer- obviously if there are continued issues I will make contact again.

Martin Pitt has commenced work on the erecting the bike shelter at the Community centre and this should be finished imminently.

Following agreement at the last meeting I have instructed our solicitor to proceed with registering the Title Deeds at Land registry. He is arranging to send through the Letter of Engagement which will be completed and returned once received, thereafter once he has all the information he has requested he can proceed.

My CiLCA training commenced last week and I have been informed there is a grant that may cover up to 75% of the training costs- the costs covered are those of NALC for the training and SLCC for the qualification but not for any additional hours. I have therefore applied for this grant and will confirm whether we have been successful in due course. If the application is accepted this will reduce the said fees from £660 to £165- a saving of £495.

Finally, our external auditor PKF Littlejohn has completed the external audit for the PC for the year ending 2021. I am pleased to report they raised no questions and had no concerns and have completed the certificate confirming the audit is now complete. Therefore, the Rights of Inspection and certificate will be posted on the noticeboard and the website in the next few days