

# **Somerset County Council Highways Update Report**

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## **Purpose of the Report**

Somerset County Council Highways Interim report for the period April 2014 to March 2015, to provide an update on works progress.

## **Recommendation**

That Members note and comment on the report.

## **Surface Dressing**

Surface Dressing is the practice of applying a bitumen tack coat to the existing road surface and then rolling in stone chippings. Whilst this practice is not the most PR friendly, it is highly effective in preserving the integrity of the road surface.

The Surface Dressing was completed within the programmed timescale for the 2014 'season' and various remedial sites from last year's programme were attended to as well.

This year's Surface Dressing sites are currently receiving their final inspections prior to acceptance by SCC.

## **Grass Cutting**

The verge cutting of main A and B roads commenced in mid-May, followed by the C and D roads and then the final cut of the A and B roads. There was some delay experienced in the C and D road cutting programme and this was unfortunately due to re-distribution of resource by the Term Maintenance contractor.

I would note that the enquiries relating to this year's grass cutting were less than the previous year, which I trust is a good indication of getting the timing of the cutting right.

## **Winter Maintenance**

The preparation for this year's winter maintenance programme has commenced and the salt supply for the upcoming season is being delivered to the depot.

It is likely that similar to previous years the local parishes will be invited to collect their allocation of ten 20kg grit bags. Confirmation will be submitted to Parish Clerks as soon as this is approved by the Winter Maintenance Manager.

To provide efficiencies in resource time for filling the parish grit bins, a request will be submitted to the parish clerks to identify, check and inform SCC of the current situation with regards to accessibility and filling requirements for their grit bins.

## Structural maintenance Schemes 2014/15

Many of the structural maintenance schemes for this year have been completed and are listed below:

Upper and Lower Woodcock St / Fore St / The Triangle / B3152	Castle Cary	Resurfacing	Completed
A357 Combe Hill	Henstridge	Resurfacing	Completed
Millbrook Gardens	Castle Cary	Footways	Deferred to 15/16
Wheathill Lane	Milborne Port	Drainage	Completed
Marsh Lane	Horsington	Drainage	Completed
Dancing Lane	Wincanton	Drainage	Completed
Barrow Water Lane	Charlton Musgrove	Drainage	Feb 2015
A359 Quaperlake Street	Bruton	Drainage	Completed

## Remaining DfT funded Schemes

Queen Camel	Sutton Montis Road	Highway Drainage	Completed
South Cadbury	South Cadbury Road	Highway Drainage	Feb 2015

**NOTE:** As stated in the April 2013 report, Somerset County Council received additional funds from the Department for Transport to undertake highway maintenance 2013-2015. In order to achieve the aims and conditions of the grant to improve the highway network and to reduce congestion SCC proposed that the grant be used to address the following two issues.

- Deterioration of the highway carriageway surface resulting in pothole formation.
  - Damage caused to the highway by flooding events.
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