

Paul Gadd County Councillor Update

Saffron Walden Town Council – Planning and Transport Committee

24/2/22

1. Flooding and drainage issues:
 - a. Little Walden Road – flooding on the stretch between the allotments and Lambert Cross, caused by water coming down a drainage ditch immediately north of Lambert Cross. Georgia has been in contact with the riparian owners concerned who have cleared it. There was flooding again this week so I will take up with ECC as it looks as if the drain under the road may be blocked;
 - b. I had my call with my Essex Highways drain contact; main points as follows:
 - i. There are major issues under Newport Rd which will need a proper capital project (which could take years); they have cleared everything they can, and the drains are working much better than they were, so hopefully that will work for the moment;
 - ii. As immediate priorities, there are blockages / issues affecting Shepherds Way, South Rd and Reddings Close which they are going to prioritise, and there are a number of drains which they are going to jet (Bridge St, Borough Lane, Rylstone Way, Abbey Lane);
 - iii. We then need to see if they can find a solution for Windmill Hill / Bridge St;
 - iv. The Little Walden Rd Stonebridge Farm ditch still needs more clearing so they will contact the landowner to arrange in the summer.
2. Highways matters affecting the parish:
 - a. ECC have just published a 20mph consultation for the new estate on Radwinter Road by Cornell Court, opposite Tesco. They appear to have a policy that all new estate roads should be 20mph in principle;
 - b. LHP schemes:
 - i. I've been contacted about 2 more, which Georgia has done the forms for, for dropped kerbs to allow disabled to get from the Ross Close / Winstanley Rd end of town into the town centre, and to make the green bollard areas on George St / Hill St pavement; they are on the agenda;
 - ii. No further update on the other requests;
 - c. High Street pavements – the UDC tree officer doesn't want any trees removed and ECC don't want to do further slab work while the trees are there; we're in discussion;
 - d. ECC Highways inevitably pre-occupied with post-storm clear up, so other jobs may take longer.