

Area North Committee – 23 January 2013

9. County Highway Authority Report – Area North

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(This report was deferred at the meetings of Area North Committee on 28 November 2012 and 19 December 2012)

Purpose of the report

The Report is to inform members of the work carried out by the County Highway Authority at the halfway stage through the financial year 2012/13 and what schemes are remaining on the work programme for the rest of the year.

Recommendation

That members note and comment on the report.

Report

Surface Dressing

Weather this year has been a major factor in delivering our surface dressing program. It was delayed until August, which only gave us a one month window in which to complete the work. After this time the road temperature is too unpredictable to ensure there are no surface failures.

Surface Dressing is the practice of applying a bitumen tack coat to the existing road surface and rolling in stone chippings. Whilst this practice is not the most PR friendly, when carried out correctly it is highly effective and can bring significant improvements to the highway infrastructure.

Verge Cutting

Grass cutting this year has been difficult due to the rapid growth of vegetation and as you can appreciate; our works are largely governed by resource. With a highway network exceeding 3500km in length, the size of the task is significant. The County Council therefore has a policy and procedures that are in place to ensure the work is carried out in the most safe, effective and economic way. In a world of ever increasing risk assessment and claim/liability scenarios, the policy must take into account the range of road classifications across the network and prioritises them accordingly. We were able to do 2 cuts on A and B roads together with one cut on the C and D class roads this year. The programme was largely completed by the end of September.

Winter maintenance

The preparation for this years winter maintenance programme has now started. Our salt supply for the upcoming season has been delivered to the depot. Local parishes will again be invited to collect their allocation of ten 20kg grit bags. If grit bins are being considered at new locations, can the members please confirm these positions as soon as possible as the filling of bins has now commenced. It may also be beneficial to confirm previous locations to ensure that these areas are not missed.

Structural Schemes Completed 2012/13

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

Tintinhull	Head Street	Surfacing
Martock	Ashfield Park Estate	Surfacing
Somerton	West Street	Surfacing
Tintinhull	A303 Overbridge	Surfacing
Martock	Stapleton Cross	Surfacing
Huish Episcopi	Langport Road	Surfacing
Curry Rivel	St Andrews Close	Footway
Norton sub Hamdon	Skinners Lane	Drainage
Barrington	Ruskway Lane	Drainage
Stoke sub Hamdon	Stonehill	Footway

Outstanding Structural Schemes to be completed in 2012/13

South Petherton	Silver Street & Hospital Lane	Surfacing
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Deferred Schemes

Footway at Cary Way, Somerton
 Drainage at Silver Street, Kingsbury Episcopi
