

## **Suffolk County Council Report by Beccy Hopfensperger for the Risby Annual Parish Meeting 2023**

### Highways

As usual highways accounts for the largest amount of queries I receive.

### Drains – South Street

Community Highways Engineer Andy Moore has requested another visit to the drains to ensure they are jetted through the whole system I will let you know when this is scheduled.

### Eroded Roadside opposite War Memorial

As for the edge defects in School Road, Andy Moore looked at this today and checked the criteria on HMOP, and this states that the edge defect must be over 10m in length and 300mm wide and a minimum of 70mm in depth, and after I have measured them they both fall into this criteria, so he has raised an reactive order to have these repaired.

### Destruction of the Corner of the Green

Andy Moore put some cones there to see how effective they are and then replaced some of the grass area a couple of months ago and also checked what was underneath the corner to look at the possibility of permanent bollards. Unfortunately bollards are not possible due to the amount of concrete and also access to services. When he returned today the cones were in the same place so it looked like they worked. He has checked and has come to an agreement that whilst bollards are not possible on this corner a planter would be. In order to do this the Parish Council could apply for a street furniture licence which costs £150 and then get a quote for a planter and submit it to highways for permission with the licence to place the planter. The licence would cover the whole parish. If this is something that you wish to go forward with we can look at funding options.

### Extent of Highway around the ponds

I am awaiting for maps for confirmation but it looks like highways are responsible for the areas around the pond up to the highway but not the ponds themselves.

### Potholes

I know this is the bane of everyone's lives including myself and the state of the roads is not acceptable. We now have the perfect opportunity with the change in the highways contract to look at how we can better deal with the potholes by firstly doing a better first time fix and also doing all potholes in one area irrespective of whether they meet the intervention criteria.

We need to continue to report them and I can continue to escalate.

The reason temporary repairs are completed is because the road management needed for permanent repairs may take longer to organise and also depends on how much material the truck can carry.

We have had a particular hard winter for the road with lots of salting that has effected the roads, to put the number of defects (potholes) into context there are around 1,800 in the system with 125 being added on a daily basis. The government recognised that potholes are a national issue which is why SCC got nearly £5million for pothole repairs, this is why first time fixes are important to ensure that the money is spent in the most efficient way.