



Bapchild Parish Council
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Bapchild
Sittingbourne
Kent
ME9 9PL

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Thursday, 09 June 2022

Residents School Lane & Ashtead Drive

Dear Villager,

Ref: Drainage Upgrade

The Parish Council has been regularly in contact with Kent Highways since March 2022 about the poor state of the reinstatement to the highway verge at the junction of Ashtead Drive and School Lane after the recent drainage improvements.

We know this situation and the current extensive weed growth is of concern to residents and we are sorry to report that there might be a further delay in resolving this issue.

Following a discussion with County Councillor Lehmann yesterday we have been offered the following information by Kent Highways who are responsible for this area.

When we raise these orders, the contractor is required to deliver them within 90 days of the order being placed. Whilst we did request the work be undertaken in a timely manner unfortunately this hasn't been possible, and the contractor is still within their contractual timescale for this work.

As advised in my email on 1st June, I have chased up the matter and been in contact today. There may have been a misunderstanding that this was a defect with the original works, when in fact this was a new works order to re-attempt the reinstatement of the area. Our schemes engineer met with the contractor's representative this afternoon to clarify the extent of works required.

It is very regrettable that this has taken some time to resolve - we have relatively limited resources at our disposal for this kind of work.

We have also lodged a report with the highway authority about the height of the weeds and the visibility problems this might cause in an effort to get this overgrowth cut down more quickly.

We are very sorry that this issue is an ongoing concern to residents. If you would like to contact your County Councillor as one of his constituents to register your own concerns his email and phone number details are noted below.

Rich.Lehmann@kent.gov.uk

Tel: 03000 415013

Yours sincerely,



Liz Cruise
Clerk
Parish Clerk

cc: Members of Bapchild Parish Council
County Councillor Rich Lehmann
Borough Councillor Monique Bonney

Swale East
West Downs