



# Gerrards Cross Parish Council

South Lodge, East Common, Gerrards Cross, Bucks SL9 7AD  
01753 888018 [clerk@gerrardscross.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@gerrardscross.gov.uk)

## Highways Committee Report

The Highways Committee has two main functions.

Firstly, we are directly responsible under delegated powers from South Bucks District Council, for all street lighting in the Parish, except that which is provided by the Buckinghamshire County Council on the trunk roads. For this work we have a budget and employ a contractor.

Secondly we are deeply involved in all matters relating to our highways. While we have no direct power in this area, we are kept informed and are constantly in consultation with both the County and District Councils. In addition we initiate many items of business that Councillors and members of the public bring to our attention.

The Council has responded to requests to light some more black spots around the Parish and new lights have been installed in three locations. They been placed on the footpath between High Beeches and Fulmer Drive, on footpaths 6 and 7, on South Park Crescent and on the corner of Oval Way and Orchehill Avenue. As our lighting equipment is now relatively old, it seemed that it would be sensible to review matters with a view to updating our system if it proved appropriate and viable. We are aware that LED systems are much more efficient than the existing lamps so, we invited Mike Leigh, our contractor, to meet us and discuss this with us. It would appear that LED lanterns are much more efficient and running costs are much cheaper. Presently they are at least twice as expensive to buy as the existing ones. It was put to us that with technology improving all the time, costs should decrease and we would be well advised to look again at our system in a few years time.

The lighting switch off is still a subject of some anxiety and the Council is continuing to pursue this vigorously through our Member of Parliament, our County Councillors and others. It is to be welcomed that work is to be done on the A413 starting at the end of March.

Two items have been the subject of most complaints this year.

Firstly, the new traffic management plan in the middle of the village and this matter is subject to a report elsewhere.

Secondly, that so many roads are in such a very poor state, which was not helped by a second severe winter. Many require complete resurfacing, but we can all help by reporting defects such as potholes, to Transport for Bucks. Their e-mail address is [tfb@buckscouncil.gov.uk](mailto:tfb@buckscouncil.gov.uk)

We understand that some more money has been allocated by the County Council for this work and we will continue to press for considerable improvement in this area.

In order to improve matters for residents in future freezing weather the Parish

Council has installed some more salt bins at strategic places and purchased some salt to keep them topped up. The footways in the village became very dangerous on some occasions last winter and when a situation like this happens again, the Council intends to employ a specialist firm on a trial basis to try and improve matters. The traders are fully briefed on this proposed action.

The Council has had a request from the Gerrards Cross Church School Travel Plan working group for a dropped curb at the end of Vicarage Way. We were pleased to be able to support this and understand that there is funding to pay for it. They also asked for a salt bin and some Hi Vis vests which can be paid for from a budget held by County Councillor Roger Reed.

Ian Gordon

Councillor Ian Gordon