

Highways

After the Council's approval of the Traffic and Road Safety Working Group's recommendations, meetings have been held with Somerset Councillors and the Somerset Traffic Management and Parking Services teams.

Following the formation of the Somerset Unitary Council and the current financial emergency, central funding is no longer available for the kinds of improvements identified following our traffic consultation. The Somerset Improvements Team still supports parish councils in developing improvement projects, but these now have to be funded locally. The Somerset Traffic Management team is currently providing a lot of information to help prioritise the Working Group's recommendations on a cost-benefit basis. This will be reported at a PPC full council meeting as soon as all the information is available.

The Somerset Traffic Management Team are now engaged in rectifying the missing parking sign outside the Hardware Store, and the missing parking restriction signs along Highbank Cottages/Splatt Barn Cottage. The request for more, free 15 minute parking spaces in the Doverhay and Central car parks is currently being reviewed by the Parking Services Team, though the outcome of this won't be known until the Autumn.

Written by Cllr. S Colson, 4th April, 2024

Other Highways matters

Fixing the faulty light at West Porlock is being chased.

The design for the missing sign on High Street by the Castle directing cars and pedestrians to Central Long Stay car park has been provided by Highways to be submitted with their Road Order.

Other matters

Two water butts to collect rain water for the OSC have been purchased from and delivered by Porlock Hardware. The Caretaker will install using the only plastic downpipe available by the boiler room.

Floral Displays

The watering contractors for 2024 have been sent agreed contracts for signing. Some volunteers came forward to help with tidying and planting with Spring bedding, etc. The High Street and Central car park displays have been weeded, pruned, planted with spring flowers and fed. The empty plastic troughs at the OSC will be temporarily removed and it is proposed that wooden surrounds, possibly lifted up off the ground to deter slugs and snails, could be provided to improve the aesthetics of these planters.

Festival of Blossom at the OSC

Many of the crochet blossoms created as part of the National Trust & PVCIC Blossom Project will be displayed on the OSC railings to celebrate the Festival of Blossom that has been so enthusiastically taken up by local volunteers and craft groups.

Ongoing:

- Financial support for maintaining areas devolved from SWT and permission for volunteer maintenance of some areas
- Idverde bin emptying SLA
- Signage for OSC/Parish Room – to confirm opening times going forward before replacing sign
- Further notices requested from the Dog Warden have still to be installed by PPC
- Car park provision – a Somerset Council countywide review of parking is to take place in 24/25