**Highways and Streetscene, Portfolio**

Highways

Wiltshire have announced that the contract for grass cutting with Balfour Beatty will end in March 2016 , which is two years early.

The service is currently being provided by The Landscape Group (TLG) under the management of Wiltshire Council

However the other aspects of the Streetscene and Minor Maintenance contract covering grid emptying, pothole repairs, street lighting etc is still being managed by Balfour Beatty

The new area coordinator is David Arnup, who is in the process of transferrin from Salisbury. He is currently covering both areas. .

However we have been advised that any issues have to be raised on line, using the standard reporting procedure open to the public.

Wiltshire have announced that they will only be undertaking the statutory minimum level of works with regards to highways and streetscene.

The effects will be that verges will only be cut once a year and gulleys will also only be emptied once per year, unless there is a safety issue.

The parish stewards will be concentrating on safety critical work, such as pothole filling, and will generally no longer be available for routine tasks.

The old concepts of community days and regular visits by the Parish Steward are in effect dead.Thus we will have to consider using village working parties for some areas of work.

Detritus from the badger setts has been causing problems in Ram Alley. Wiltshire have cleared the road, but cannot take any action about the setts as they are protected. This is an ongoing issue

The broken drain outside of Appledore is still waiting for the masonry team. As there is only one team in the County, it could still be a while before any repairs are undertaken

Street Scene

As far as I am aware all street lights are working, if not please advise me.

Speed Watch

The volunteers continue to be active, and the issue of speeding along the B3087 is acknowledged by the Police. Speeds in excess of 50 m.p.h. have been recorded by the Speed Watch volunteers, and speeds well above 40m.p.h. are common place, despite the high visibility of the monitors.

Many of the vehicles recording the highest speeds are registered outside Wiltshire, and therefore do not receive any visits from the Police.

Village Street 20mph limit

I have received no further news, but hopefully our County Councillor will be able to update us at our meeting.