



Highways Committee Minutes 21/01/2025

Present: Pam Bowring, Nick Colton (Devon County Council Highways), Cllr Edwards (Chair), James Friend, Bob Hone, Cllr Kenny, Cllr Nix, Spencer Pearson.

Clerk: Anne Towill

The meeting was opened at 13:00

1. Nick Colton (Devon County Council Highways) explained about the challenges he has with matching work needing to be done and budget. He covers 11,000 km of road which covers from the Plymouth boundary to Buckfastleigh and then from Wembury to Holne. He has a budget of £250,000 for all repairs in the area, except potholes that meet the criteria. With the cost of projects rising all the time this doesn't go far and can easily be taken up with one project such as Mewstone Avenue. There was a conversation about drainage works, devolution and the policies and contracts that Devon County Council have. Unfortunately, unless more money comes down from central government, repairs in the parish will have to wait for the 2026-27 financial year.
2. Road Warden Scheme. There was a discussion around how this scheme works and what needs to happen to mean that it could get started. The volunteers will finish their training, with preferably two trained in Chapter 8. Nick Colton will liaise regarding where can be worked on and what measures will need to be put in place for the busier roads to ensure safe working. The Clerk will make sure that all risk assessments and paperwork is in place for them to be able to start.
3. Traine Road. There was a discussion around whether more could be done to improve the situation on Traine Road. Other than making it access only, which was objected strongly to by some residents, there are no other measures that can be taken at this time. It was noted though that since the new signs have been up telling people to take the main route to get to Wembury village and the beach, that there is less traffic on Traine road.
4. Hollacombe. The speeding issues in Hollacombe were discussed and a suggestion by Nick Colton that the council could request the 30 limit be extended to the Ridgecross junction was made. This might mean that not only would the 30-limit sign be more noticeable and so hopefully more complied with, but that drivers may slow down enough to be at 30 when they reach Hollacombe. The Clerk will put the item on the February agenda for full council for discussion.
5. Yellow lines at Odd Wheel junction. Due to regular poor parking by customers of the pub right on the corner of the junction, dangerous conditions are

created. The Clerk will put on the full council agenda to consider asking for double yellow lines to be installed at that junction to deter people from parking there. In the meantime, Cllr Kenny will speak to the pub and see if they will put in cones to deter people from parking so close to the corner.

6. One way system for emergency diversions. The idea of this was discussed but it wouldn't be practical to put in place due to the nature of the roads that would be used.
7. Bovisand Lane pull ins. There have been reported issues with a pot hole causing cars to move in to an area that means they hit stones which cause damage to their cars. Nick Colton will check the area to see what is happening and if anything can be done.
8. Bus bay on Mewstone avenue. The bay markings will be installed soon if they haven't been done already.
9. Rumble strips. There was a discussion around the use of rumble strips, but Nick explained that this would not happen due to the noise disturbance and other issues with them.
10. Devon County Council Highways contracts. The Devon County Council Highways contracts for things such as potholes etc will be up for renewal in 2027.
11. Bridge near Wembury Beach. The bridge is showing signs of damage that needs to be rectified, and the underside being cleared to allow the flow of water. Nick said that the bridge is actually owned by the National Trust, and they are responsible for its repair and maintenance. The Clerk will contact them to make them aware of their responsibilities and the problems.

The meeting was closed at 14:23.



Clerk to the Council