

RESURFACING OF PART OF BIDEFORD GREEN

Several years ago, before I became a town councillor in 2015, I reported several potholes in that part of Bideford Green which goes from Southcott Lower School around the cul-de-sac thereafter (covering approximately 60 houses from Nos 448 to 509). These were filled and the contractor actually knocked on our door to confirm the work had been done as a courtesy following my reporting, and to say that the road was due to be resurfaced more generally in the following financial year. Resurfacing of Bideford Green did indeed take place but stopped at Southcott Lower School. Since then, many potholes have appeared in the missed part of Bideford Green. These have been reported by various residents at various times and patching has taken place which has been of mixed success. Today, there are numerous, largely small potholes and a true patchwork quilt on the road as shown by the photographs of that part of the stretch in question from the school up the hill before the cul-de-sac bends round.

Recently, and entirely independently, one of the residents on this stretch of road decided that something really had to be done to improve its state and contacted relevant houses asking whether they would support him in an approach to Central Bedfordshire to ask for the road to be resurfaced. Given my personal interest as a resident along the relevant stretch of road, I have done no more until now than to indicate support for his proposed action. The resident has now circulated the houses around the cul-de-sac with the attached information.

Against this background – and having declared my interest as one of the residents involved – would the Planning and Transport Committee be prepared to contact Central Bedfordshire Council:

- a. Noting the approach to them (CBC) about the resurfacing of Bideford Green from Southcott Lower School around the remainder of the cul-de-sac
- b. Requesting that the points made to them (CBC) are given serious consideration in their priority setting, and
- c. Requesting an update on what Central Bedfordshire intend when the priorities for 2021-22 have been decided.

The road from Southcott School around the cul-de-sac is used not only by residents but also by school traffic with parking both on the hill shown in the photographs but also further around the cul-de-sac as there is a back path to the school. Obviously, all these vehicles then have to turn around and exit by the same route they entered increasing the traffic flow and resultant wear.

Cllr Clive Palmer
17 September 2020