22.03.2024

Report - Surface Water Issues South Village

Due to the recent wet weather and reports of unprecedented ingress of water in Gypshayes and the southern end of The Hyde, I carried out a fact-finding survey of the South of the Village with a drainage expert who is also a resident of Langton Matravers.

Area 1 From Spyway Farm to Spyway Car Park. (450m approx.)

After recent re-surfacing of the track between the farm and the car park, it is apparent that several "run-off" points on the East side of the track have become blocked, making them largely ineffective. This is principally due to a lack of both longitudinal and transverse profile of the track together with the use of granular material which is too small and easily washed away by fast flowing water. This is coupled with a lack of adequate maintenance. This has resulted in increased water flow into the lane adjacent to Langton House (HPB).

Area 2 Lane from Spyway Car Park to Spyway Orchard Entrance. (275m approx.)

The lane has a drainage ditch on the West side to take run-off into the gully stream. Unfortunately, the lane has deteriorated due to substrate breaking as a result of a lack of depth of road construction for the volume and weight of vehicles using it. This has caused tarmac surface to crack/become loose. There now appears to be a significant "stream" flowing down the East side of the lane.

Area 3 Entrance to Spyway Orchard/footpath between Spyway Orchard and Gypshayes.

Following the recent junction works to Spyway Orchard and the turning circle on Durnford Drove, it is noticeable that any run-off from (2) above is mainly directed Eastwards onto the footpath at the end of the gardens of Gypshayes, (washing away the surface) and then on to the ditch which runs in the gardens at the South end of The Hyde. The runoff from Area 3 should be directed, by suitable construction work, into the ditch on the West side of the lane and not into the footpath or into Durnford Drove.

Area 4. Fields at South Hyde and impact of water on the South of The Hyde.

It was noted that the stream which runs Northward on the East side of the bank which separates HPB property and South Hyde was full, and overflowing onto the smallholding. It was also noted that there appears to be a new stream of run-off water flowing on the west side of the dividing bank, which has not been identified there before. This has resulted in more run-off impacting on the South end of the Hyde.

Area 5. Drainage ditches, gullies, pipes.

There is no official scheduled clearance/maintenance work carried out on this infrastructure, apart from any DIY activity taken by residents etc. It was noted that there was a fair amount of detritus in the gully, especially partially impeding the grating at Coles ground/turning circle.

Suggestions

Area 1. National Trust should be urged to carry out works as necessary to improve run-off Eastwards on the track.

Area 2. HPB/NT should be urged to have meaningful discussions to address the issues with the lane and bring forward a suitable plan of action.

Area 3. Stakeholders should be urged to review this area and put forward a plan to ensure any excess water is persuaded into the turning circle on Durnford Drove rather than Eastwards along the footpath.

Area 4. Improve and maintain ditches.

Area 5. Maintenance schedule should be put in place by stakeholders.

P. Christie

22.03.2024





