

FAO Mr Nathan Turnbull  
Community Engagement.  
Kier .Co.Uk

Mr C D Jose  
Highways  
North Cadbury  
Parish Council

Dear Mr Turnbull.

19th Nov 24

I thank you for sending me the Enhanced Highways Maintenance ( EHM )

Presentation , The launch letter, map of the road gullies and the current road gully report .

I would advise that listing of the Statutory Somerset obligations re highways (HERE) is still not available on the Somerset Highways website so it is difficult at this stage to determine what is the authorities obligation and the parish responsibility under the “Enhanced “ Highways maintenance scheme.

As you know I did ask for a figure of current spend on the parish roads or maybe a budget that Somerset has been working to . This would provide some idea of just what the parish may be letting itself in for if it was to join in the EHM scheme ,this is not currently available .

Re the **Gully report** and maps , this does give some data to look at .

If I have read the spreadsheet correctly we have 1998 gullies in the parish.

There is a coding system and rudimentary locations on the schedule .Are the numbers in brackets an indication of type of gully, or is it an identifier of the drainage system it drains into, I notice the same numbers appearing in different lists ? If column I is a target date ,is column J the actual date of attention , if so many of the gullies are very overdue a biennial clean .

As this parish along with neighbouring ones experienced dramatic flooding in May 2023 they have an enhanced interest in the state of

their gullies and general drainage systems and will be particularly concerned that they are kept clear.

Are all the gullies listed the responsibility of the parish , some are coded the Galhampton Hill (A359 ) or Cary Rd (A359) , surely if these are on the main road these should be Somerset Highway responsibility !

To put this into perspective if as you stated 100 gully cleans can be achieved in a day that could cost £1,400.00 per day ,then to clean all these gullies in two years , ie biennially would cost £14,000.00 pa . Whilst this is a very hypothetical calculation for now, it along with all the other proposed EHM items could represent a very large figure ,dwarfing the current parish precept .

I think until we can definitively know what is the base responsibility of the Somerset Council it is difficult to present this scheme to the Parish and increase the precept accordingly .I await any further details that may be revealed .

Regards Chris Jose