

QUESTION TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE

“We would have expected the changing of the M O Ps agreement to have seen the teething problems resolved, but it seems that there are still areas that need to be addressed. I have been told that footpath’s, through my housing estates, adopted under Highways Dept, have no operational cleaning or maintenance in place, they are being left to become overgrown, with health and safety issues increasing.

Verge grass cutting has been very ad hock with minimum attention, and in several places, poor workmanship. I have been told the current arrangement with the District Council has come to an end, with nothing yet in its place to replace it. I believe I have given ample information and opportunity to the correct people for my issues to be resolved; they still remain outstanding because officers have nowhere to go.

In respect of the above can you tell me if replacement arrangements are being made? If so, will maintenance of highway adopted footpath’s be on the agenda? When do you expect the arrangements to be in place?

How long will I have to wait for an extremely poor maintained adopted highways grass verge in my Division, on Ladybrook Lane to be given attention?

Can you direct me to who can clean a well-used footpath on the estate that is dangerous in bad weather?”

Councillor June Stendall

WRITTEN RESPONSE FROM COUNCILLOR RICHARD JACKSON, CHAIRMAN OF THE TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE

“May I thank Councillor Stendall for her question.

With regard to the specific locations I can confirm the grass on Ladybrook Lane has been cut and the weeds on Cottam Grove and Cherry Grove sprayed on the 31 October. If the location of the well used footpath is passed over I can direct it to the appropriate team.

It is incorrect to say nothing is in place to replace verge cutting arrangements. The delivery of environmental maintenance across the County was considered by the Transport and Highways Committee at its meeting on 18th October 2012 including the changes referred to. In addition the Committee approved for next season onwards an investment of £42,750 a year so that strimming will be undertaken after every urban grass cut to improve the quality of grass cutting across the County.

Thank you Chairman.”