



Pulborough Parish Council

for Pulborough's future

A29 Landslip and road closure, Church Hill – Update – 10th March 2023

West Sussex County Council held meetings with the landowners and other key parties involved last week and we understand these were positive. However, there is not yet news on progress for works commencing. For clarity, to avoid some misunderstandings being voiced, extracts from the WSCC statement following the recent public meeting are below:

“As outlined during the meeting, the complexity of the issue is not in the engineering, which our technical team advise is relatively straightforward to resolve. The situation is unusual in that the embankments on both sides of the cutting are not within the County Council’s control..... and are owned by private landowners. This has resulted in a longer than anticipated timeline as we have had to engage in a period of discussions and negotiations with the landowners to allow us to access their land and undertake the works. These discussions are ongoing and are productive. It is appropriate that before we utilise any statutory powers to enter the land and do the works, we must allow sufficient time for the landowners to fully explore the implications on their property and understand what is required before they come to an agreement with us. The solution presented at the meeting was that once an agreement had been reached with the landowners, which we are hoping for this week, we will immediately implement temporary repairs which we anticipate will take approximately two weeks to complete. This temporary solution, which will reopen the road and allow for two-way traffic under temporary traffic lights, is one which has received support from local residents. There are a further two phases to resolve this permanently, with the complete repair to be completed once a design and programme has been agreed with key local stakeholders. Our objective is to have the road open to two-way traffic as quickly as possible and maintain that whilst the permanent solution is designed.”

The Parish Council will continue to press for progress and keep residents as informed as possible when we have new information to report. WSCC dedicated email webpage for their updates can be found at <https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/campaigns/a29-pulborough/> and queries can be emailed direct to their dedicated address a29landslip@westsussex.gov.uk.