

Lifton Parish Council Meeting – 18th December 2025
Agenda item 6.1 – Highways Update

The following notices/issues have been reported to or from Devon County Council since the last meeting, as follows:

W251917456 - Thank you for the following report. Problem : Defective Road Markings/Signs, Public Information Portal Defective Road Markings (White). Location: Darkey Lane, Lifton. Date Reported: 12-December-2025. What happens next? The details have been sent to our team so that an assessment can be carried out. We anticipate that this assessment will be completed by 19/12/2025.

W251916561- Flooding & Blocked Drains, Blocked Drains. Location: Road from Lower Cookworthy Cross to Tinhay Bridge, Lifton. Thank you for taking the time to submit this report. What action has been taken? Your report: I've requested that our contractor carries out works in this location to clear the blocked drain. Due to the volume of requests we are receiving at present, I can't guarantee a specific timescale however our contractor will carry out the work as soon as resources are available.

W251916556 - Flooding & Blocked Drains, Flooding. Location: Old Tinhay, Lifton. Thank you for taking the time to submit this report. What action has been taken? The problem has been repaired.

W251915054 - Flooding & Blocked Drains, Blocked Drains. Location: Old Tinhay, Lifton. Thank you for taking the time to submit this report. What action has been taken? Your report: I've requested that our contractor carries out works in this location to clear the blocked drain. Due to the volume of requests we are receiving at present, I can't guarantee a specific timescale however our contractor will carry out the work as soon as resources are available

W251915436; W251915421 & W251915428 - Flooding & Blocked Drains, Blocked Drains: Location: Road from Liftondown Cross to Melcroft Cottage, Liftondown; Location: Road from Liftondown Cross to Smallacombe, Liftondown; and Location: Road from Liftondown Cross to Melcroft Cottage, Liftondown.

DCC Highways provided the following response to all 3 above: Thank you for taking the time to submit this report. What action has been taken?

This location is currently under a yellow weather warning for wind and rain. The recent storm and high water levels have highlighted some challenges, as the volumes our assets are experiencing exceed their design capacity.

It is important to note that highway assets and drainage systems are designed to manage water falling on the highway, not to protect private properties. This is a common misconception. Landowners are responsible for safeguarding their own properties against water ingress. This may include installing appropriate drainage systems, using water-resistant materials, ensuring the property is graded to direct water away from buildings, to name a few.

We will respond to highway flooding causing an obstruction if, 24 hours after the rain has stopped, any of the following conditions apply:

- The road is impassable
- Water forces vehicles, cyclists, or pedestrians more than one metre away from the nearside of the road
- Vehicles are required to cross the centreline marking.

While we appreciate that blocked gullies can cause inconvenience to adjacent properties, in this instance none of the above conditions are present. Therefore, we are unable to attend on a reactive basis. Please be assured that the gullies will be cleaned as part of our annual programme.

If you wish to raise your concerns further, you may contact Flood Risk Management via the link below:
<https://www.devon.gov.uk/floodriskmanagement/>

W251914840 - Broken Inspection Cover, Broken Inspection Cover. Location: Duntz Hill, Lifton. Thank you for taking the time to submit this report. What action has been taken?

The problem you have raised has been investigated by an inspector, whilst we have identified the issue, it does not meet our criteria for repair (<https://www.devon.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/report-a-problem/>), therefore we will not carry out any repairs at this time.

Lifton Community Speed Watch Group: An update will be provided before/at the PC meeting.

Vehicle Activated Speed signs: The solar panel on the new VAS in Liftondown has been installed. The quote for a solar panel to convert the battery-operated VAS sign located elsewhere in the village will be shared at the PC meeting.