



BELGRAVE ROAD

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

REPORT 70/20

14 SEPTEMBER 2020

The purpose of this Report is to ask Members to consider a recommendation about the future of Belgrave Road.

No. DETAILS

1) BACKGROUND

Belgrave Road was affected by a significant collapse in January this year resulting in its closure and the covering of its southern flank by netting to catch falling debris.

2) ISLAND ROADS' RESPONSE

- a) Island Roads has maintained regular inspections of the site to monitor any further movement and initially kept residents updated with weekly letters.
- b) In the absence of recent information the Town Clerk contacted Island Roads to request an update.
- c) Its letter in response says that the twice-weekly inspections have been renewed and have shown that no further significant movement or cracking has occurred in recent weeks and the wire netting is working effectively to contain any debris as has been confirmed by mainland specialists and an independent consultant has been appointed to look into possible design solutions for the site.
- d) The full letter is attached to this Report.

3) COUNCILLOR STEPHEN COCKETT'S PROPOSAL

- a) In mid-January a retaining wall supporting a section of Belgrave road gave way causing a partial collapse of the footway and road which was subsequently closed to traffic. Since that closure the fall has become progressively worse, the road will now require significant engineering to be reinstated.
- b) Prior to the collapse the roadway was flanked by two low quality narrow footways of between 80 – 100cms. Wheelchairs, pushchairs and mobility scooters therefore had to use the roadway.
- c) Regular vehicular traffic can circumvent Belgrave Road by using Alpine road.
- d) Only two driveways have been directly affected by the absence of access.
- e) Belgrave Road has only a moderate gradient at its western end and as such forms a suitable and well used east-west route for pedestrians, wheelchair and mobility scooter users and cyclists.
- f) The reinstatement of the affected section of Belgrave Road to non-vehicular traffic only may see a faster, cheaper and more suitable solution rather than a large scale engineering project to facilitate vehicles.
- g) Recommendation:
Request that the clerk contacts the Isle of Wight Council's Highways Department to field the suggestion of a non-vehicular reinstatement and to request that the Town Council is formally consulted in the development phase.

4) RECOMMENDATION

Members are recommended to consider the recommendation in section 3(g) above.

Working in partnership



18th August 2020

Belgrave Road/Esplanade Road closure update

We are writing to you to give you a quick update on the situation at Belgrave Road/Esplanade Road.

We have been continuing to undertake twice weekly visual site inspections of Belgrave Road and Esplanade Road to monitor the wall movement and cracking both at the top of the terrace and the middle and lower sections. This has shown no further significant movement, cracking or deterioration in either the top, middle or lower sections of the wall above Esplanade Road in recent weeks. The wire netting also continues to work effectively to contain any debris should it fall.

Since the lockdown measures eased, and keen to make progress, we were at last able to get mainland specialists to come over to undertake more detailed surveys on site. These too indicated no significant movement.

We have now therefore jointly appointed an independent consultant that will carry out further investigations and will also look at possible design solutions for the site.

We will continue to keep you informed as this work progresses and thank you for your continuing patience.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact us on 01983 822440 or email info@islandroads.com

Thank you.