

CARPARK REPORT

Peter Carter and the contractors have finished and have done an excellent job. They started on Tuesday 17th November 2020 and finished on Monday 23rd November.

Firstly, they dug out the soil for the new areas, both the extension next to the field and the sides adjacent to the churchyard walls. They then took away the unwanted soil to the tip. At this stage it became apparent that the water runoff from the field was rapidly filling up the extension area just dug out. Peter was concerned that this volume of water might erode the hardcore foundations of the new extension which would over time lead to subsidence. It was agreed that a drain would be needed. There was an extra cost of £1200 for this drain. A land drain had been previously discussed in March, but had hoped to be avoided as to connect to the rainwater drain in Church Lane would need approval and possibly some extra costs from Island Roads.

The drain was installed and was plumbed into the rainwater gully in the road just by the entrance. Island Roads were not involved, and a tidy job was completed. They did make a surprise visit to check the gully, although chose not to make contact with us. Rhod and Henry later in the week dug out the blocked pipe under the road and the open rainwater gully down the south side of Church Lane. Water no longer runs over the carpark and into the road. It happily goes down the drain and into the gully by the side of the road.

Secondly, the contractors lined the dug out areas with a polythene membrane and then filled with 12 inches of hardcore, once filled they then compacted the hardcore foundations with a roller.

Next stage was to cover the entire carpark both the new areas and the existing with the final surface of Limestone chippings (as agreed by PCC), this was also compacted down. Finally tarmac was laid between the gate and the road to provide a sufficiently sturdy entrance.

The Limestone chippings do currently have a pinkish colouring. This is normal. The stones are a standard grey colour but they come with a fine sandy "filling" which gives the pinky colouring. Over time the weather and rain will wash the Limestones clean and will embed the "filling" downwards within the Limestones to help compact and cement the bottom layer of stones, giving them extra robustness.

The excavated soil had a fair amount of rubbish and stones within it, and it was decided not to make use of it and this soil was sent to the tip. It had been intended for this excavated soil to be reused and laid in the dips and low lying areas of the field.

Consequently there is an area of the field adjacent to the carpark which is lower than the carpark and needs to be raised to both stop erosion of the carpark edge and to prevent people tripping over during the summer months. This remedial work is now being undertaken by Rhod & Chloe.

The contractor's invoice was exactly as their estimate with the agreed extra drain and amounted to £12,854.40. Peter's invoice was £300, lower than estimate of £500.

Michael Beavis 10th January 2021