

Councillor Dave Jackson report April 2025

I have replied to an email from the recently appointed WODC Youth Development Officer, James Edney. He is keen to investigate the establishment of youth activities in areas where few exist, and he has identified The Bartons as one such area. He is writing to Parish Clerks soon, so we may get a message before our SBPC meeting on the 14th April. I have invited him to come for a chat over a cuppa at my house, and if I get a positive reply, I will let the parish councillors know in case any one wants to join us.

They are slightly simplifying the way I schedule the action for potholes on Fix My Street in my capacity as a Super User. There is a short Teams meeting on Tuesday 15th April to explain the changes, and I have indicated to the organiser, Lorraine Tougher, that I will log on. She has also indicated how I can raise concerns about the quality of the work done by the pothole teams, so I hope I can take the opportunity to discuss other concerns raised at the SBPC meetings, like several instances of the team seemingly sitting in the car park for prolonged periods of time.

There has been another development in the prolonged saga about the wobbly manhole cover outside 13 Marshall Crescent. Following BT's insistence that it is not their responsibility, Chris Grain, OCC Highways Officer, has discovered that it is a gas company chamber, so he has raised an urgent repair order with them. I have let the concerned resident know of this latest "twist in the tale"!

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