



Potholes in Recreation Ground Road and East Cross

Picture: Andrew Frisby

Pothole plague is gripping our roads



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A road that is peppered with deep potholes resembles a battlefield says an angry councillor.

Tenterden town councillor Callum Knowles said: "Recreation Ground Road is like a battlefield as there are just so many potholes.

"I know that there is a lot of construction traffic using the road, but it's no excuse and it's awful."

Recreation Ground Road is bearing the brunt of construction traffic from the Tent 1A housing development, but it is not the only route affected.

The road is among many in Tenterden plagued by huge potholes.

Tenterden Camera Club member, Andrew Frisby, who took pictures of the damaged surface just outside Tenterden Infant School, said: "You have to wriggle your way down Recreation Ground Road.

"It's like a game of spot the road, not the pothole and it looks like Beirut, not Tenterden."

Cllr Mike Carter said: "There are potholes from one end of the High Street to another.

"It's appalling and I have had quite a few complaints made to me about the state of the roads."

He said that roads from St Michael's to Chennell Park Road were affected and the surface outside Silcocks Farm in Grange Road was particularly bad.

"The roads need proper repairs, not 'bodge' repairs," said the councillor who works in the construction industry.

"As soon as the rain comes down the repairs wash away."

He added: "An old person crossing the road in parts of Tenterden could be vulnerable to tripping on a pothole and suffering a broken leg or hip."

Cllr Sue Ferguson raised the issue of Tenterden's problem roads at a meeting of Tenterden Town Council's external committee on Monday.

She said: "There's a huge pothole at East Cross and they are

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A Kent County Council spokesman said: "We work hard to maintain our roads to help prevent problems such as potholes in the future.

"Our inspectors regularly check for defects, and with regard to the specific roads mentioned here, we have programmed in the work to be done shortly.

"Our online fault reporting is the quickest and easiest way to let us know about problems and we encourage people to help us identify any problems and report them via our customer friendly on-line reporting tool at www.kent.gov.uk"

all over Recreation Ground Road. "I know there is a lot of construction traffic on the roads but we can't wait for the homes to be built before roads are resurfaced.

Cllr Ferguson also complained about the difficulties of notifying Kent County Council about potholes through its online fault reporting system, claiming that other councils allow pothole reporting direct via social media.

She added: "I appreciate that [KCC] Highways are short of money but we have got some terrible potholes in Tenterden.

We don't want to be ignored and we want our fair share of money for pot hole repairs."

➔ What do you think? Write to Kentish Express, Unit 4, Park Mall Shopping Centre Ashford, TN24 8RY or email kentishexpress@thekmggroup.co.uk

■ Only 14% of nearly 1,000 compensation claims submitted to Kent County Council over damage caused by potholes have been successful. Full story on page 27.



Town councillors Callum Knowles, Sue Ferguson and Mike Carter

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