

A35 Stony Lane (Purewell Cross) roundabout resurfacing FAQ

(Also includes section of A35 Christchurch By Pass and B3347 Stony Lane)

Q. What is happening?

Major resurfacing work is being carried out on the:

1. A35 Stony Lane (Purewell Cross) roundabout.
2. A35 Christchurch By-Pass dual carriageway, from A35 Fountain roundabout to A35 Stony Lane (Purewell Cross) roundabout.
3. B3347 Stony Lane from the railway bridge to the A35 Stony Lane (Purewell Cross) roundabout.
4. Road safety scheme being implemented at junction of roundabout and Purewell Cross Road (visibility screen).
5. Routine maintenance including vegetation clearance, sign renewal, litter picking, gully cleanings and repairs to vehicle restraint systems (crash barriers).
6. Crack sealing to part of eastbound carriageway
7. Repairs to bridge parapet over the river Mude
8. Gas mains repair works by SGN in Stony Lane.

Q. When is it happening?

A. Work starts 18.00 hrs Monday 27th October for a period of up to 3 weeks expecting to reopen early morning of Monday 17th November prior to the market day bus services starting at 6am.

Q. Is the market still on?

Yes. The scheme has been arranged around this with works scheduled to be carried out on Stony Lane that day to allow the market and buses to carry on as they normally would. On Mondays from 06:00hrs to 18:00hrs bus services will be allowed to use the A35 Christchurch By Pass as they normally would.

Q. Is the road closed?

A. Yes. The work is being done in a phased manner with continuous 24 hours road closures in operation first in an eastbound direction and then westbound once the eastbound side is complete.

Restrictions and closures are as follows:

- **Phase 1.**
 - **Starts** 18:00hrs Monday 27 October
 - **Ends** 06:00hrs Monday 10 November
 - **No eastbound traffic will be allowed to enter the A35 Christchurch By-Pass** from A35 Fountain Way roundabout.
 - Access to the Waitrose car park and Millhams Street North is unaffected.
 - Westbound traffic coming from the A35 Somerford roundabout direction will be able to travel as normal.

- Work paused on Monday 3 November between 06:00hrs and 18:00hrs to coincide with market day bus services.
- Diversion route for eastbound traffic will be via A35 Barrack Road, Iford roundabout, A3060 Castle Lane East, Cooper Dean roundabout, A338 Wessex Way, A31 to junction 1 M27 Cadnam off slip, A336 to Totton, A326 to A35 Lyndhurst Road, A35 Bournemouth Road to A35 Somerford roundabout.
- A diversion on B3347 Stony Lane will be in place (see question below)
- **Phase 2.**
 - **Starts** 18:00hrs Monday 10 November
 - **Ends** by 06:00hrs Monday 17 November
 - **No westbound traffic will be allowed to enter the A35 Christchurch By Pass** from the A35 Somerford roundabout.
 - Eastbound traffic coming from the A35 Fountain Way roundabout direction will be able to travel as normal including heading north up the B3347 Stony Lane from the A35 Stony Lane (Purewell Cross) roundabout.
 - Diversion route for westbound traffic will be via A35 Lyndhurst Road, to A337 to Cadnam to A31, A338 Wessex Way, Cooper Dean roundabout, A3060 Castle Lane East to Iford roundabout and A35 Barrack Road.
 - Junction with Burton Road/A35 Christchurch by-pass will be closed.
 - Southbound traffic on the B3347 Stony Lane will be able to access the A35 Stony Lane (Purewell Cross) roundabout but will only be able to turn left towards the A35 Somerford roundabout. There will be no access ahead to Purewell Cross Road or Stony Lane or right to A35 Christchurch By Pass to Fountain roundabout.
 - NOTE: details of B3347 Stony Lane diversion are included below in the 'What about Burton and Winkton?' section.

Q. Why is the diversion route so huge?

A. The diversion route for Through Traffic is extensive due to the requirement for diverted 'A road' traffic to use another suitable 'A road' and weight restrictions on some routes means sending vehicles, with the focus on HGVs, on a 30 mile diversion.

Q. How much extra time will the diversion add to my journey?

A. The diversion routes have been driven simulating a HGV meaning:

1. Eastbound – 1 hour (HGVs travelling eastbound have to divert near Totton due to a 7.5 tonne weight limit on the one way system in Lyndhurst).
2. Westbound – 45mins.

If you can possibly avoid making those journeys by working at home or rescheduling appointments that are due at this time then we'd advise you to consider doing this.

Q. Why can't the work be done at night? Or use lane closures or traffic lights

A. The fresh grouted asphalt material needs time to cure and each section takes the best part of 24 hours from start to finish. It's not like traditional material that can be trafficked within an hour or so of laying. Image below illustrates the grout being laid in it's fresh, fluid form so it is not possible to restrict this to just one side of the road – it naturally wants to flow from kerb to kerb.

Q. What about Burton and Winkton?

A diversion route will be in place:

1. Eastbound traffic guided down Salisbury Road towards the A35 Somerford R/A
2. Westbound traffic guided to Ringwood and the A31/A338 Wessex Way although the Avon Causeway will be open under temporary traffic signals.
3. Traffic signals will be in place on the Avon Causeway to regulate expected higher flows of traffic though this is not suitable for large vehicles.



Q. 3 weeks!?! Closed 24 hours a day? Why?

A. This site, due to the types of turning, braking and accelerating actions of large volumes of traffic, is notoriously hard wearing for road surfaces and conventional materials tend to wear out quickly. We are using a specialised grouted asphalt material which is designed for use in high stress areas such as this. This involves laying asphalt and applying a cementitious grout over the top to add more strength.

Unfortunately this material, which is much stronger, has a significantly longer curing time and the carriageway has to be closed for longer than we'd normally prefer. It will however last much longer so there is a pay off for delays caused now compared to having to go back there again in 5-6 years time and have to do it all again – something we'd all wish to avoid.

Q. Why are you doing this now?

A. There is never a good time to do this crucial hub in our Highway Network and we appreciate it will cause disruption for lots of people particularly because there is only one main A road into and out of Christchurch. We took the view to minimise impact we should do

at least some of the work during a school half term week at a quiet time of year with few tourists coming down to visits compared to the summer.

Additionally there are technical reasons for not doing this in the middle of the Summer holidays or the middle of Winter given the environmental conditions would not be conducive to the material setting properly.

Q. What about the buses? How are they affected?

Bus services will run for the most part as usual although there will be some changes to the services for Winkton and Burley due to the need for the buses to use a diversion.

This scheme has been designed with in particular their requirement to use the A35 Christchurch By-pass on a Monday to avoid major disruption. We do however expect higher than normal levels of traffic in the area so delays to services may occur as a result.

Q. Why are the parking bays suspended in Castle Street, Bridge Street and Purewell?

A. We expect this route to be very busy during this time and considered it wise to suspend the short term parking bays in the narrowest part of the road to help keep the traffic flowing.

Q. What about emergency vehicles? How will they get through?

A. The Emergency Services have been informed and will be making their own plans to make their way around most likely using Castle St/Purewell.

Unfortunately this material cannot be trafficked whilst still setting, it's not like normal asphalt that we could plane off immediately after the vehicle had driven over it (and damaged it) and relay. This grouted asphalt behaves more like concrete. We just can't let people drive on it until it's cured.

Q. Why are there traffic lights on the Avon Causeway

A. Under normal conditions the current one-way priority arrangement works adequately however with the expected additional traffic due to the works temporary signals have been deployed to make sure traffic keeps moving in both directions and that the side that does not have priority does not back up.

Q. I drive a car/van and do not want to have to go all way to Totton can I use another route?

A. Yes. All other routes are open as usual however we are obliged to provide a diversion route that is suitable for all vehicles including HGVs and we are constrained by having to use an alternative route of the same class of road as the one being temporarily closed. Unfortunately the A35 is the only main 'A' road that goes through Christchurch.

Please DO NOT use Burley as a short cut, roads there are for local access only and should be treated accordingly.

Please be aware that all other routes will be busy and to leave extra time for your journey.

Q. Why are there traffic signals on the Avon Causeway at this time?

A. Under normal circumstances one side has priority and traffic coming from the other direction has to wait and give way. Due to expected increase in traffic volume we have taken the decision to use temporary traffic signals to regulate the flow of traffic in both directions otherwise one side may back up with huge queues result

Q. Will BCP pay for my fuel?

A. No.

Q. When are you doing my road/other roads?

A. The chances are, if it's 'bad', that we already know about it and it will be on a shortlist for structural maintenance some time in the future. More details about the Highways Maintenance programme are available on our website.

www.bpcouncil.gov.uk/highwaymaintenance

In addition to this we have more resurfacing and surface treatment schemes lined up for roads in the Poole, Bournemouth and Christchurch areas which we will try to deliver before April or soon after.