

## County Council Report: Acton Parish Council, March 2026

- **Daniels Close Tree Works Grant**

Funding of £1,300 from my local community budget has now been secured and Abbie is filing the necessary paperwork.

- **Barrow Hill/High Street Intersection Improvements Grant**

The Highways Team have now finalised the necessary paperwork for the above to commence and local public consultation on the installation of lines to stop hazardous parking at the location.

Following my redistribution of monies elsewhere, I'm pleased to award Acton additional funds for this project of £5,467.03 from my Local Highways Budget. Subsequently, this reduces the Parish Council's contribution to £1,000. Abbie is currently arranging for the final transfer of funds.

- **DC/24/03715 and 24/03720 – Village Gates**

Following Cllr Round's reporting of the above to me this afternoon, I had a call with the Head of Transport Strategy at the County Council. He provisionally advised the gates must be reinstalled/relocated by the developer but will report back in writing on this shortly. He highlighted that the interim storage of the gates may be a matter for the parish council to assist with to ensure they are kept in safekeeping but will advise.

- **Felix Bus Service 700 Termination**

I was disappointed to learn from some residents in Acton and neighbouring parishes the sad decision by Felix to shortly end its local service.

On Monday, I spoke to Felix Coaches directly, who advised that some weeks there are 25 passengers for the entire week on 15 separate service trips. It was advised, with many journeys coming from concessionary fare passengers, income per passenger is on average 86p, which renders the service unfeasible.

I am aware many residents use the 700 service to get to Sudbury town centre, which is also serviced by the KonectBuses 43/44 route as an alternative. This still, however, leaves access to the Chilton Health Centre and Tesco unserved which is not satisfactory. To address this, I have spoken to the Cabinet Member responsible and

requested the 43/44 run alternating timed services to cover these locations. He is now investigating the possibility of this.

Once I receive an update on the proposed solution, I will report back.

Look forward to seeing you in April for the Parish AGM.