



East Dean Downlands (Roads) Limited

Maintenance of the Estate Roads

Welcome as a new resident! This newsletter is to tell you about the action being taken by the residents of this estate to maintain the roads and to ask for your participation.

All the roads on the East Dean Downlands Estate, which lies to the north of the A259, are private and have not been adopted by the County Council.

In 1984, owing to the ongoing poor state of the roads, the residents formed East Dean Downlands (Roads) Ltd (EDDR) to look after the maintenance of the estate roads and gulleys.

There are five miles of roads and over two hundred gulleys with connected soakaways to maintain and the only way in which EDDR obtains money for spending on road repairs is by annual contributions from householders. The annual contribution per household (set by shareholders at the AGM) is a modest £140 for 2026.

Up to 2025 we had collected and spent a total of over £850,000 on repair and maintenance and you will notice the smooth tarmac surfaces on all the roads – a great improvement over the rough and pot-holed lanes they had become. Their present smooth appearance, however, hides the fact that very nearly all the roads have minimal foundations. They were not designed for the high volume of vehicles nor the large number of heavy trucks we see today. This high usage inevitably leads to a higher degree of wear and tear and could adversely impact the underlying sub-structure. The surface periodically breaks up and potholes develop. Also, every year many gullies fill with silt and leaves, often causing temporary flooding.

The company is run by a voluntary Board of Directors who are all householders on the Estate. All householders are entitled to become shareholders (one per household, single or Joint) and, provided they are up to date with their annual contributions they may vote at General meetings.

The Company Administrator, Caraline Marchant, has records of all contributions and, if you are in any doubt, can let you know the current balance for your property. This is also shown on the request for payment sent out to each household at the beginning of each year.

Our Operations Director is Brian Howe and he monitors our work programmes and provides an interface with our contractors.

Our Finance Director and Company Secretary is Stewart Fuller. He oversees all transactions made on behalf of the company and organises the accounts and AGM.

Do we have your email address? If not, please consider letting us have it; it will save time and money in contacting you. The EDDR email address is eastdeanroads@hotmail.co.uk and our

website is www.eastdeanroads.co.uk. We ask you to let us know if you spot anything that needs to be looked at concerning the condition of the roads and drainage gullies.

We need the active support of every household – the roads are used by all and for the benefit of all. Their upkeep is vital for safety, access (especially in emergencies) and for the value of properties. The voted minimum annual figure is only £140 (for 2026); you may contribute more if you wish - some do! I hope you will agree this is very good value.

Robert Corbett
Chairman/Director
EDDR

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