

From: Sonia Pritchard <sonia.pritchard@daglingworth.org.uk>
Subject: Closure of Overly Road from Stratton to Daglingworth
Date: 23 July 2026 at 13:53:41 BST

To: Anne.Johns@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Cc: daglingworth parish council <daglingworthparishcouncil@gmail.com>, Cllr Julia Judd <julia.judd@cotswold.gov.uk>, Mark.Harris@gloucestershire.gov.uk, cliftonbrowng@parliament.uk

Dear Anne,

Thank you for your email of July 6, 2026. We are grateful you had copied Daniel Tiffney, your line manager, and Caine Edwards, Traffic Manager with responsibility for 'Streetworks'.

I am writing this email on behalf of Daglingworth Parish Council. Our response takes into account communications with 'Thames Water' and 'Streetworks', which residents shared with us. We understand that the decision to close Overly Road from Stratton to Daglingworth, and to use Dowers Lane as a diversion route was taken by a joint site meeting between 'Streetworks' officers and 'Thames Water' contractors. We feel that Daglingworth Parish Council should have been included in this meeting as we could have provided some valuable feedback. While the Thames Water project falls just outside the Daglingworth Parish, our residents have endured the most inconvenience. Among other things, the school bus and the 'Stage Coach 82' bus have not been coming to our village. Both services are essential to working parents and to villagers who do not drive a car.

We are concerned that the use of Dowers Lane as a diversion route was not thoroughly assessed. The suitability of the diversion was assessed by a 'Streetworks' inspector (correspondence between Kirsty Boddy and a resident) on a single visit. Unfortunately, traffic flow was not monitored during peak times which has been creating a chaos not just along the lane, but also at the bottom of the lane in the village, where traffic jams have occurred for prolonged periods (Example: Picture 1). Please note that our 'Community Speed Watch' group regularly record over 160 vehicles passing through Daglingworth during peak times. Even during non-peak times, residents have been experiencing congestions lasting for around 20 minutes. In addition, we have a livery at Greenhill Equitation - horse carriers attached to large cars have caused additional traffic problems.

Once Dowers Lane was approved as a diversion route by 'Streetworks', it was necessary to undertake some road maintenance. Given that the nesting season was over, the growth of the hedges alongside the lane should have been trimmed to create a bit more space along the road, particularly at passing points. Also, a number of signs which restrict HGVs from entering the lane are surrounded by overgrown vegetation. This limits or hides their visibility and makes it difficult to be noticed by drivers of HGVs and large buses, particularly at night time. Indeed, many HGV drivers who have taken the wrong route shared this predicament with Daglingworth residents (Examples: Picture 2, Picture 3).

As a single-track lane, with very few passing places, Dowers Lane is not suitable for the amount of traffic caused by the closure of Overly Road. We believe that traffic jams would have been prevented by a set of traffic lights at both ends of the lane.

With regards to the closure of Overly Road, we appreciate that excavation works require the protection of workforce and travellers. However, this could have been implemented by means of different traffic management arrangements (for example, traffic lights) during the various stages of the project. There has not been a huge amount of traffic generated by vehicles serving the works.

We now note that the 'Thames Water' contractors have been granted an extension to complete the works, from July 17th to July 31st, causing further traffic disruptions. The granting body has failed to inform Daglingworth Parish Council of the extension. Thus, we have been unable to inform our residents of the cause of the extension and whether the contractors would be able to complete the project within the new timeframe. Understandably, our residents have been frustrated with the lack of information and with the extended period of disturbance.

In conclusion, we feel that Daglingworth Parish Council should have been involved in the decision to close Overly Road from Stratton to Daglingworth and the suitability of Dowers Lane as a diversion route. We hope that the huge inconveniences endured by our residents will be noted and similar situations avoided in the future.

Cllr Sonia Pritchard,

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