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Dear Mr Chairman,

Please allow me to make the following observations in response to the letter from Mr Steve Smith of the Highway Services. For better clarity I attach some photographs of a small section of the roads, taken last Sunday.

In answer to when the roads were last resurfaced Mr Smith writes that the Highway Services' records are incomplete. The roads were taken over from Bovis in perfect condition over 30 years ago. The reason for the records being incomplete is that the roads have never been resurfaced since they were taken over.

Mr Smith states that it is not the age of the road that determines the need for resurfacing but:

1. Actual Condition: There has been some filling of pot-holes but as you can see from the photographs the condition of the road is still very poor.

2. Nature & volume of traffic: There are 88 large family homes in the neighbourhood, each having two or three cars. They are working families who use the roads daily on a continuous basis. They have visitors. The utilities and services have access to the roads. Learner-drivers are brought there to practise. Some residents, being responsible citizens, cycle up to the Village.

3. Recent work: The external weather team has carried out some work in the neighbourhood, but the work is incomplete. The pebbles and gravel will wash away when the rains come and we will be back to square one. In some sections the surface has been denuded & we are down to the concrete base (see the photographs). In the long run it will be more cost effective to resurface properly.

I have made a rough estimate that over the past thirty years, at today's prices, the residents of Redhill Wood have contributed over £6 million in Council Tax. Recently, South Ash Road was resurfaced and at the same time the road to Barnfield Park was also resurfaced. There are 40 units in Barnfield Park. In contrast we have 88 large houses in Redhill Wood. I am sure the irony of the comparison between Barnfield Park & Redhill Wood will not be lost to the members of the Committee.

Ferri Jahed
(Chairman, Redhill Wood Residents' Society)