

The Occupier

Your ref
Our ref SWCA#003 / letter 2
Name Ross Matthews
Email bridges@somerset.gov.uk

10 September 2025

Dear Sir or Madam ,

Update on Repair Works to Culverts Beneath Lower Street, Withycombe

Further to our letter dated 13 August 2025, we are writing to provide an update on the progress of the repair works and to inform you of additional works now planned, including remedial action on Christophers Culvert.

Progress and Additional Works

The works have progressed well; however, we have identified significantly more areas of scour beneath the culvert walls than previously anticipated. As a result, our contractor will need to return to the site in the coming weeks to carry out further repairs.

These additional works will involve casting a new concrete floor in sections of the culvert where one does not currently exist. The concrete will also fill the scour holes beneath the walls, thereby restoring the structural integrity of the culvert.

These works are scheduled to commence during the week beginning **22 September 2025**.

Christophers Culvert

In our previous correspondence (13th August 2025), we noted that the downstream section of the culvert—known as Christophers—is not owned or maintained by Somerset Council, and therefore was not included in the original scope of works. Our enquiries to date have been unable to establish the owner of the land within which the culvert is located.

However, upon further consideration, it is recognised that if the culvert continues to deteriorate it could affect the integrity of the highway, which remains the Council's responsibility. We are of the view, therefore, that it would be imprudent to install a new concrete floor in the adjacent section of culvert without extending this through Christophers Culvert. Accordingly, we will include this section in the upcoming repairs, which will also address the scour damage identified there.

Please note that these works will be carried out by Somerset Council at its own expense as a gesture of goodwill. This does not imply any future responsibility for the maintenance of Christophers Culvert, nor will the Council accept liability for any future issues arising from works undertaken on this goodwill basis.

Comments or Objections

If you have a legal interest in the upkeep of Christophers Culvert and wish to comment or object to the proposed works, please respond to the email address provided no later than **16 September 2025**.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R. Matthews". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ross Matthews
Senior Bridge Engineer
Somerset Council