

HS2 update



Future landscaping

Following the recent meeting with Mark Wild, the HS2 chief executive, we've been busy getting feedback on the "Wendover Link" landscape restoration proposals. We've been in touch with residents in Ellesborough Road and Bacombe Lane and with interested community groups. Officers from Bucks Council had a site visit with us and we hope to agree the final plans with HS2 by the end of May. We're grateful to see the level of detail included in the recently revised planning submission for the Wendover Dean area, and expect similar treatment for the Small Dean to Nash Lee sections this summer.

Future train noise

Mark Wild also facilitated two meetings with HS2's Head of Noise Assessment and we have further discussions planned with Bucks Council and EKFB's noise designers this month. Our modelling suggests that the noise could be worse than predicted by HS2, but there has been an intervention by Heidi Alexander, the DfT Transport Secretary of State. The HS2 "Programme Reset" was due to be announced in April but this has been delayed as she has requested HS2 consider



slowing down the trains to save money. This would have the knock-on effect of reducing the noise levels. However we are seeking changes to the overall design to ensure that the noise is still limited, in case they decide to run the trains faster in future.

Wendover Green Tunnel

Installation of the concrete shell of the final "fourth" phase of the tunnel is progressing well and getting close to Ellesborough Road. Constructing the shell underneath the two bailey bridges needs a different approach as there is not enough room to accommodate the large crawler crane. We understand that special lifting equipment will be used to slide the pre-cast concrete segments into place with millimetre accuracy.

Meanwhile the rock "backfilling" of the cutting around the first phase is nearly at the top of the tunnel shell.

A413 realignment at Small Dean Viaduct

Last month we reported that the final realignment to smooth out the curves between the viaduct piers was anticipated to be completed this Autumn. Regrettably it seems that HS2

have not yet agreed the precise positioning of the road with Bucks Council Highways, and the roadworks have slipped into 2027.

Community help from HS2

HS2 staff are available to undertake some "social value" projects with community groups in the Wendover area. In March they undertook a "litter pick" with the Parish Council. If you need a volunteer to help fix a local issue then email us at enquiries@whs2.org and we'll pass on the details.

Issues with HS2?

If you're affected by the construction activity, please contact the HS2 Helpdesk team on 08081 434 434 (which is available 24 hours a day) or email hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk to get your issues resolved. It helps if you have photographic evidence and please get a complaint reference number so that we can follow up issues as needed.

Need our help?

If you need further help, want to join us, or have ideas and suggestions that would mitigate the community impact, then get in touch at enquiries@whs2.org.

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Information provided by EKFB, main contractor for HS2 at Wendover and Stoke Mandeville.

Parapet installation on the Small Dean viaduct (photo below) has now been completed, marking an important step forward in the construction of the structure. In total, 228 parapets are now in place, bringing the viaduct closer to its next phase.

Much of this work was carried out overnight, when access near the railway environment is safest. These carefully planned operations involved specialist lifting equipment and close coordination between teams, all working efficiently to reduce disruption to the surrounding area.

To help residents better understand what's involved in this type of work, our latest video offers a behind-the-scenes look at the overnight parapet lifting operations carried out earlier this year. It provides a glimpse into the skill, teamwork and planning that goes into delivering these construction milestones.

You can watch the video by scanning the QR code here or by accessing the link: <https://bit.ly/sdvparapets>.



We are completing the outstanding minor road signage, verge and footway crossing works through overnight works on the Stoke Mandeville Relief Road at the end of April

In May we will be carrying out overnight works on Nash Lee Road. There will be two overnight closures on 5 and 6 May between the hours 8.30pm–5.30am to complete an

inspection and general maintenance of the temporary bridge to ensure safe operation of the structure.

We will be hosting our Mobile Visitor Centre at the Wendover produce market on Saturday 16 May between 10am–2pm.

Our engagement team will be available should you wish to discuss HS2 works around Wendover or support for local community projects.

If you would like to read more about the works and view the advance works notices and maps, then please go to HS2 website www.hs2.org.uk and click the 'in your area section' to view the interactive map.

Alternatively, if you have a question about HS2 please contact our HS2 Helpdesk team on 08081 434434 or email hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk.




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