



ITEM 9a – WENDOVER HS2 MAG

HS2 Monthly Report, May '26

Works update

- The Spring Chamber construction works are progressing well and are still expected to complete in July. The Right of Way between Dobbins Lane and the King's Farm Shop has remained open throughout.
- The precast concrete shell segments for the section of the Wendover Green Tunnel under the Ellesborough Road bridges are now being installed using a low level crane built specifically for the task. Rumours that the bridges would need to be removed are unfounded.
- The Small Dean Viaduct is now in use to allow Dump Trucks to cross the A413 and the Chiltern Line. This means that the green conveyor system is now redundant and there will be night time closures of the A413 in early July to allow it to be removed.
- Installation of large concrete parapet walls at the Rocky Lane bridge which will require full closure of the road for two weeks planned in late July/early August.
- Bowood Lane is currently open for cyclists and walkers using the new bridge over the HS2 route. However a two week closure is needed for highways "tie-ins" to allow all traffic to use the bridge. This is currently planned for mid July, and HS2 have told us that they will ensure that this does not clash with the Rocky Lane closure to maintain a right of way between the A413 and The Lee.

HS2 Programme Reset

- HS2 have now announced that the Civil Engineering works are expected to be completed on 2029. That will be followed by installation of "Railway Systems", including the track, and overhead catenary power system which is expected to take two years. Testing of the trains with the rest of the railway will follow that enabling the first passenger services between Old Oak Common and Birmingham Curzon Street passing Wendover to start at some point "between May 2036 and October 2039".
- HS2 also announced that the maximum train speed is being reduced from 360 to 320 kph (200 mph) in line with some existing European railways. This will reduce the noise experienced in Wendover during the day; but is not expected to change the night time impact as the speed limit had already been decreased to 319 kph in the Wendover area.
- WHS2 has continued to press HS2 for additional noise mitigation to reduce the noise in North Wendover with the support of Greg Smith MP; including his request to the Secretary of State in the House of Commons seeking revision of HS2's predictions across Buckinghamshire.

Public queries

- Eight miscellaneous public enquiries processed this month, including two night time construction noise issues now both resolved.

MJSC

26th May '26