

HS2 update



Rocky Lane Bridge completed

During August Rocky Lane reopened following a two-week closure to allow the installation of the parapets on the Underbridge, which had been the last task to complete this structure (photo right). The height of the walls will be continued along the railway with 3-metre high noise barriers at each side to reduce the impact for London Road residents.

A413 realignment now enabled



Following our involvement, Bucks Council has now agreed planning permission for access to Boswell's Estate at Small Dean, using the gateway on Hale Road (photo left).

Removal of the need for access from the A413 means that HS2 can now progress the final alignment of the highway under the Small Dean Viaduct and the associated cycleway.

EKFB Contract renegotiated

HS2 announced that it has now renegotiated the Civil Engineering contract with EKFB. By "rewarding efficient delivery and cost control through a revised payment structure with contractors... they are incentivised to deliver on budget and on time."

The HS2 Programme Reset will "continue into spring 2027, when a new 'baseline' [the roadmap setting out HS2's delivery timetable] will be finalised."

We are concerned to ensure that quality (the third project management dimension) will not be compromised and hope to be able to share some details about what this means for Wendover before too long.

Air Quality and dust

We've had reports about excessive dust on cars and windows from the HS2 works north of Ellesborough Road, and have challenged EKFB about the performance of its Air Quality monitoring.

All but one of the nine monitoring stations



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Aston Clinton, Halton,
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in the Wendover Parish area were shut down in the winter, as agreed with Bucks Council (photo right). Four were functioning in May, but this was after the removal of the huge clay stockpile. That's now been replaced by a chalk heap, ready for covering up the Green Tunnel.

EKFB has been using water tankers to dampen down the 'haul routes' used by its dump trucks during the recent hot weather. It is also limiting the height from which spoil gets dropped into the lorries, how full they are when loaded, and how fast they can travel. There's not much else it can do. We are continuing to monitor this monthly as much as we can.

Wendover Link progress

We've received copies of the Bacombe Lane and Ellesborough Road designs, which regrettably had not been updated with the 'asks' we submitted six months ago.

We are due to attend an Active Travel workshop with EKFB and Bucks Council to look at the detail of the designs for footpaths and cycleways, which will be the precursor to final Bucks Council approval.

We are also anticipating an opportunity to revise the Green Tunnel North Portal area design, to incorporate some alternative noise mitigation measures in the light of HS2's rejection of our request for a trackside noise barrier.



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 or check out our website www.whs2.org.

JAMES MCINTYRE

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NEXT DATES:

Tuesday 13th October - 12 - 2pm
Tuesday 10th November - 12 - 2pm
Tuesday 8th December - 12 - 2pm

To book into one of our forthcoming surgeries or to make direct contact, please call Iain Wanstall directly on **01296 415 700** or email him at iaiw@protrustconsulting.co.uk

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