# HS2 update

Wendover HS2
Mitigation Action Group



*Self-propelled crane moving tunnel segment into place*

## Green Tunnel making progress

EKFB have now finished the installation of the concrete Green Tunnel shell under both Ellesborough Road bridges, and the special red transporter crane has been dismantled.

The gap between the two tunnel sections should be filled by the end of October. [photo far right]. Work has also started on the installation of the acoustic portal hood at the north end of the tunnel.

From the bridge you can also now see a section of the 'Grove Farm Culvert' being installed in a cutting alongside the Green Tunnel. This mile-long drain runs alongside the Green Tunnel and will carry run-off water from the Small Dean area to new ponds near Wellwick Farm.

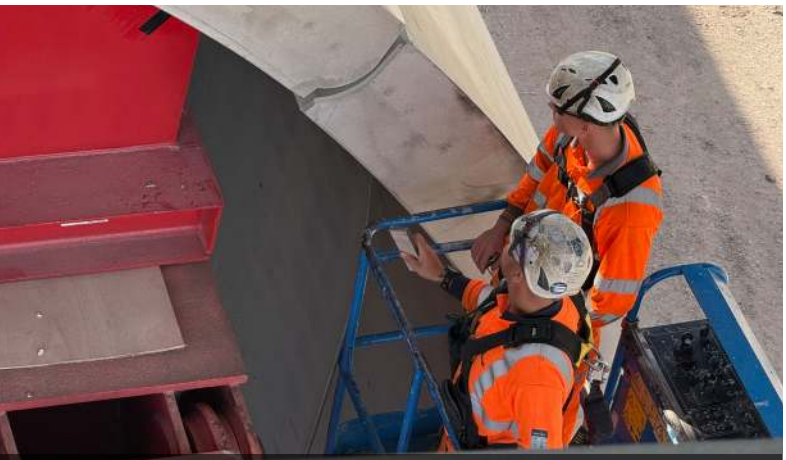
The section between Small Dean and Ellesborough Road is a 2.4 metre diameter pipe with tunnelling since April last year. The section north of Ellesborough Road is a 'cut and cover box culvert' formed using 3m wide and 2m high precast concrete shells.

## Air quality and dust

We met EKFB to raise the issue of dust from the works following complaints from local residents.

HS2's objective is to constrain dust clouds to within the works area, and claim not to have yet exceeded the target level at their monitoring sites.

The number and placement of the sites is determined by monthly review with Bucks Council Environmental Health, taking note of what works are being undertaken. We watch this space.



*Precision placement of Green Tunnel segments*

## Noise mitigation

We continue to press HS2 on future train noise and wrote to HS2 to explain why we believe that they still do not meet the Undertakings and Assurances in the Act, following their rejection of an additional noise barrier. In the meantime we are anticipating a workshop to review the design of the North Portal to see if we can get some further mitigation included.

## 'Wendover Link' progress

We've been examining the detail of EKFB's proposed footpath and road reinstatement We are making recommendations to Bucks Council listing twenty changes we believe they need to support Bacombe Lane and Ellesborough Road residents, Rights of Way users and the proposed Buckinghamshire Greenway cycle route. As *Wendover News* goes to press, we're due to meet the Council, HS2 and EKFB to discuss these, before the formal plans are submitted for approval later this year.

In the meantime Bucks Council have been put on notice by the residents that the current Bacombe Lane reinstatement is not legally compliant with the HS2 Act planning rules. Hopefully this is a wake up call for Bucks Council to pay more attention to the detail.

## Walking in the Chilterns

EKFB have launched a new 'Public Rights of Way Viewer' online map system that gives details of all the paths that are closed and their likely re-opening dates. It is usable on a both a smartphone or laptop. The website


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address is prow.ekfb.com and we've put a users' guide on our website whs2.org.

### HS2 Reset and Wendover

Now that HS2 have agreed new contract terms with EKFB, we understand that the project plan for the civil engineering in Wendover has been agreed. We're expecting the details should be available when the HS2 Mobile Visitor Centre comes to the Wendover Market on Saturday October 17th, 10:00-14:00.

### 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.

EKFB Working in partnership with HS2

**Information provided by EKFB, the prime contractor for HS2 in the Wendover and Stoke Mandeville area.**

### Wendover Green Tunnel

We've just completed the most difficult part of the green tunnel construction.



*Gap in the Green Tunnel*

Some of the pre-cast segments had to be installed directly beneath Ellesborough Road bridge, needing a specialised piece of equipment called a Self-propelled Modular Transporter (SPMT).

The SPMT was used to lift the segments upwards and move them into place instead of using a crane. This all had to be carefully planned around the height of the temporary bridge and the cutting below it.

Using the SPMT, the team safely installed 8-metre-high tunnel segments and their arch caps, without needing to close the road. The vehicle could lift two segments at a time, helping improve productivity and allowing the team to exceed daily installation targets and complete the work ahead of schedule.

You can watch the video of the SPMT in action as it installed the last segments under Ellesborough Road by scanning the QR code on the right or by visiting https://bit.ly/3SOnGvD.




*Box culvert at Ellesborough Road*

### Site visits

Would you like to come and see our work in Wendover up close? We offer regular opportunities for residents and community groups to join our monthly site tours.

During these visits, you will receive an update on the current stage of construction and can speak directly with our delivery team, ask questions, and learn more about the work taking place in your area.

To book a slot on a site tour, please get in touch with the EKFB Community Engagement team at hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk.


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