

Haul road

During September a significant amount of clay was moved from Small Dean to a stockpile just north of the Ellesborough Road, which is going to be used as "backfill" around the Wendover Green Tunnel.



The spoil stockpile which is visible from the Ellesborough Road temporary bridge

However with the very wet weather the dump trucks stopped running, as the haul road would get rutted with the 100 ton loaded weight of the dump trucks. Even in good weather, grader machines are needed to maintain the road surface. This is the reason why we don't expect any further significant dump truck activity between November and April.



One of the graders employed to maintain the haul road in serviceable condition

Big hole at Bacombe Lane

During September a massive hole was excavated next to Bacombe Lane, which doubled the number of dump trucks crossing Ellesborough Road. The hole, which required 42,000 cubic metres of excavation, is over 4,000m² in area and is about 15 metres deep. This is in preparation for the mining of the "Grove Farm Culvert;" a 2.4m diameter storm drain which will run for 800m alongside the Green Tunnel and take 12 months to create.

Working with MPs

The Wendover HS2 Mitigation Group has been working with our new MP Greg Smith. One of the issues he's been dealing with is the removal of the traffic lights on Ellesborough Road which have been causing rush hour gridlock for commuters since April. UK Power Networks has now told him that their works should be finished by "mid-October" so hopefully this will have been resolved by the time you read this.

We've also talked to Laura Kirke-Smith, the new Labour MP for the Aylesbury constituency (taking in Weston Turville), about how she can help us influence her colleagues who are now Ministers in the

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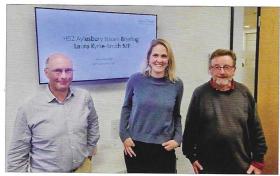
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Department for Transport, as they now dominate the Transport HS2 procurements Select Committee on matters that affect both our constituencies.



Laura Kirke-Smith (centre), met with Andy Band (left) and Murray Cooke (right) Photo: courtesy of Laura Kirke-Smith's office.



Following on from the Government's decision to cancel Phase 2 last year, there is a significant reorganisation happening inside HS2 Ltd, including a rumour in the Financial Times that the company might get absorbed into the Department for Transport.

The contracts for "Railway Systems" (such as the track, traction power systems, the overhead catenary system, operational mobile radio network and train management systems) were expected to be placed in September. We understand that the companies and products have been selected but the funds have not yet been approved by the Treasury. However, HS2 managed to place a six year contract for the evaluation of the archaeological artefacts, leading to their eventual distribution to local museums.

HS2 announced that "The outcomes of the research and knowledge gained will be shared across a range of media, including books, lectures, exhibitions, social media and other online resources. The vast digital archive generated will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service providing an unparalleled and free-to-access resource for everyone."

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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