

ACTION MINUTES

‘Virtual’ Meeting between Kings Bromley Parish Council, HS2 and Staffordshire County Council

3rd February 2021

Present:	Charles Cole	KBPC	Liz Davis	HS2
	Allan Howard	KBPC	Chris Humphreys	HS2
	Steve Browne	KBPC	Gita Dhunna	HS2
	John Sadler	KBPC	Tahir Ahmed	BBV
	Sarah Mallen	SCC	Jayne Willetts	BBV

1. Up-date on Legislative Process for Phase 2a

LD reported that Royal Assent for the HS2a Hybrid Bill was imminent. AH asked if there was a contingency plan if Royal Assent was not given. HS2 responded that they were operating on the assumption that Royal Assent will be given. (Royal Assent subsequently given on 11th February).

During its passage through the House of Lords, an amendment was carried requiring further consultations with residents and stakeholders on issues such as impact on roads, environment, ancient woodland, transport provision, construction of new railways and railway stations. This consultation will run from 1st February to 28th February. The Secretary of State for transport is required to produce a report on this Consultation by 1st May 2021 with detailed steps to be taken to implement the findings of the Report.

An integrated rail plan will be produced in the next couple of months following the National Infrastructure Commission report in November 2020.

Phase 2b consultation closed before Christmas 2020 and the responses are being analysed.

Action - LD will keep KBPC informed of any developments.

2. Phase 1 Up-date

CH/TA/JW reported that ground clearance work was due to continue in the Shaw Lane/Tuppenhurst Lane/Wood End Lane areas. These are due to finish in mid March.

Further surveying work will take place along the A515 to establish the current gas, water, electric and communications locations. This will involve operating 2 way temporary traffic lights near Kings Bromley Marina and 3 way lights at Wood End Lane. These will be in operation from 22nd - 26 February between 9am and 3.30pm.

Following this, work will commence on utility diversions and creating temporary access, a compound, earthworks and drainage

Cappers Lane Compound

Currently, a small workforce is working out of the offices on site. The compound is due to be fully operational by early Summer 2021. This will include a laboratory, offices, welfare building, briefing rooms and a boundary bund. The compound will be a base for around 400 staff and will also include material storage areas, maintenance and parking facilities. There will be no accommodation for staff at this location.

Archaeological surveys will also be taking place near the Cappers Lane Compound site.

Wood End Lane

The section of road covered by Phase 1 will be diverted, including the Curborough Brook Underbridge. This will be designed and constructed with a 7.3m carriageway width from the junction with Gorse Lane to the interface with Phase 2a near Black Slough Farm. Detailed design work is progressing on the section of Wood End lane covered by Phase 2a up to the junction with the A515.

Handsacre Connection

Design work is progressing and BBV will be undertaking temporary works, including access tracks, earthworks, compound set-up and drainage to prepare for construction. BBV will keep KBPCup-dated as these works are planned in.

Community Investment

TA outlined BBV's Community Investment Programme which includes volunteering support on community projects, fundraising support for charities and Capacity Building - using the skills and knowledge of their teams to support schools, small businesses etc.

Action - KBPC to identify suitable projects which they can discuss with HS2 and BBV.

3. Phase 2a Up-date

Overview

LD informed the meeting that ground investigation work is underway but it will take some time to complete since there are over 1,200 locations to cover.

Preparatory work on re-stringing the pylons through Kings Bromley is under way, with LD and National Grid engaging with impacted residents.

Action - An up-date meeting to be held between HS2, NG & KBPC during March 2021.

4. Specific Items

CEMEX Planning Application

HS2 indicated that this was a current planning application by CEMEX and Staffordshire County Council. Discussion took place about the different approaches between Phase 1 and Phase 2a in that the latter had established the requirements for 'Borrow Pits' to provide adequate aggregate for that stage. HS2 were not able to comment on an existing planning application but are aware that CEMEX have tendered for contracts using the Compete4 platform which advertises opportunities to potential suppliers

Progress on Common Lane/Crawley Lane

Discussions with affected landowners were continuing.

Wood End Lane - Phase 2a

Borrow pits

Subject to detailed design review

Size of traffic island at A515/A513 Rugeley Road Junction

Subject to detailed design review.

Traffic Issues

HS2 traffic through the village, the impact of A38 lane closures during the construction phase and passing places along Shaw Lane are still items of concern for KBPC.

Action: KBPC to work closely with all agencies including HS2, SCC LDC and Highways England to agree Traffic Management Plans to deal with these issues.

5. Community Programmes

Details were given on Digital Engagement overviews that had taken place and the attendee feedback from them.

LD announced the launch of the Community Engagement events (CEF) and Business and Local Economy Fund (BLEF) which will happen after Phase 2a Royal Assent has been given.

LD said the community engagement team will aim to resume the 'Growing Spaces' initiative with local schools as and when the COVID restrictions are lifted.

6. Any Other Business

Water table levels and flooding

SB raised the issue of water table levels and the risk of flooding, especially after the periods of heavy rain. TA responded that the Design team would be taking all of these aspects into account, and would discuss their proposals with landowners affected.

On the general point about how local landowners and stakeholders will be involved in the design process, TA stated that Agricultural Liaison Teams had been set up to do this and they meet with landowners alongside the construction Project Managers. These discussions cover design progress, including such issues as drainage. If any landowners have specific issues on Phase 1, they should contact JW or TA.

State of Common Lane

SB commented on the poor state of Common Lane where some site

work had been carried out.

Action: HS2 to discuss this with LM and Utility Providers

Week-end Working

CC raised the issue of week-end working which is contrary to the terms of the 'Code of Construction Practices'. It was pointed out that week-end working may be permissible in some circumstances, but agreement had to be sought from the District Council.

Action: HS2 to make KBPC aware when week-end working is being requested. Also, Craig Jordan from LDC to be invited to future meetings.

7. Suggested date for next Meeting

Late April/Early May

Charles Cole

13th February 2021