
HS2 Liaison Group
Venue: Microsoft Teams
Minutes of the meeting held on 18 December 2023 at 10.30 am

Representatives from the following organisations were present:	
Cllr Phil Larratt (Chair) Cllr Tony Bagot-Webb WNC (Brackley & Cllr Cabinet Assistant HS2) John Merchant (Helmdon) Andrew Partridge (Eydon) Cllr Rosie Herring (WNC) Dame Andrea Leadsom MP Jack Edwards (Parliamentary assistant)	Cathy Ellis (Evenley PC) Maurice Cole (Thorpe Mandeville PC) Chris Weller Gary Lowther (Syresham) Hilary Walton (Whitfield PC) Lindsay Clark Cllr Alison Eastwood WNC (Silverstone) Clive Hockley (Hinton-in-the-Hedges PC)
In Attendance:	Apologies:
Esme Cushing (WNC) Gary Pettit (WNC) Nathan Lowde (WNC) Simon Levell (Kier) Chris James (EKFB) Simon Davis (EKFB) Dave Butcher (EKFB) Nisha Mejer (HS2) Fiona Williams (HS2) Maddelyn Sutton (HS2) Andras Juhasz (HS2) Zachary Stamps (National Highways) Olivia King (National Highways)	Philip Freer (FoB) Nichola Thomas (FoB) Cllr Dermot Bambridge (Silverstone) Filippa St Alban D'Ancy (National Highways) Stuart Rolt (Thorpe Mandeville PC) Andy Smith (Radstone) David Cranwell (SNATRA) Stephanie Brackpool (SNATRA) Cllr Charles Manners

MINUTES

1. Welcome, introductions, Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

Cllr Larratt welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The Minutes from the previous meeting were agreed and updates given on actions from the previous meeting as below:

- Site visit between EKFB and Radstone in relation to PRoWs and to see piling methodology and source of 'clanging' has taken place
- EC spoke to the Road Safety team and they are undertaken a review of the B4525 next year, concluding in May 2024.

- Meeting between Planning and Members took place to discuss consultation on the masts and meetings to consider future Schedule 17 submissions will take place.
- Meeting between EKFB and Radstone to provide further information and details on noise barrier location has taken place.

2. National Highways update

ZS gave a short presentation on recent road closures and expect road closures on the A43.

The following points were noted:

Cllr B-W during the A43 closure the signage was incorrect as it should not have said no access to Brackley as the closure was at the BP Garage. It is confusing for the general public.

ZS outlined that there are regular reviews of signage and that NH had not been made aware of those issues so it is a point that will need to investigate and report back.

Further comments were made about road closures in Eydon involving Anglian Water and the coordination of road closures.

Cllr PL agreed that coordination of diversions and road closures was very important and that regular co-ordination meetings were held. He asked officers to investigate the practicality/benefit of holding an additional specific meeting.

CH noted that lack of coordination had been flagged with a number of people at National Highways.

ZS gave assurances that he would be attending the meeting going forward for consistency as recognised that there had been a number of different representatives from NH in recent years.

ACTION: NH to provide presentation at future Liaison meeting on how NH coordinates diversions/road closures

Cllr PL thanked ZS for attending.

3. HS2/EKFB update

NM explained that she is moving to a different part of the HS2 project, so this was her last meeting and that Maddelyn will be attending future meetings.

Cllr PL thanked NM and sent the groups best wishes for the future and welcomed Maddelyn.

EKFB gave a presentation on community investment. The key points were:

- **Projects supported** – Brackley Elves charity, Firework Fest, Bracken Leas, School, defibrillators funded along the line of route, Brackley allotment, Men

in Sheds. EKFB had a target of 40 projects this year and have completed 63 projects along line of route. 30 projects identified for 2024. Speak to the engagement team, to work with you over the coming year if you have any projects.

- **Site tours** – recent site tours with planning officers, community reps, Royal Engineers, school visits etc. Plan to expand school visits in coming years.
- **Blue light services** – regular meetings and emergency events as well.

EKFB then went through the works update which are outlined in the slides.

The following points were raised:

AP noted that the full route of the Greatworth T will not be open until 2024. Causing significant disruption to local residents. Even without parapets on the Wormleighton Road the overbridge seems easier to open.

SD clarified that the Greatworth T will be fully open next year. Greatworth T has always been in two phases. The later phase is the bottom of the 'T'. Will come later next year.

CJ offered to produce a phasing drawing to show the interactions between different elements of the scheme and road closures. There have been some elements around the Greatworth T that have taken some time to work through. The parapets are a common design element and are being procured and first will be installed in Buckinghamshire, will start to see them in Northants next year.

ACTION: EKFB to produce phasing drawing for Greatworth T and road closures close by to share with AP to assist with times scales

LC noted that the Wormleighton bridge road closures weren't well advertised, then was delayed two weeks and then it never happened and is now March 2024.

CJ is aware of the importance of the route and as a result of the conversations with local residents, the road closures has been rescheduled. There will be further communications and revised plans sent to local communities. SD offered to make contact with LC after the meeting to make sure the communication channels are in place.

LC observed that the tunnel progress around Chipping Warden seemed very slow.

CJ assured LC that the greatest progress has been at the Greatworth Green tunnel, which is progressing well and that things are working well at the moment

Cllr TB-W asked for clarification on the Radstone Road diversion, as wasn't aware that there was to be a further diversion to be put in place.

EKFB confirmed that it was a temporary diversion and will be in place around 18 months.

Cllr TB-W also asked why there were further closures needed on the A43, as thought all works had been completed. CJ explained that it was minor closures, midweek and at nighttime closures, once or twice so disruption would be minimised.

Cllr TB-W reiterated that communication for the A43 closures had been poor in the past. People thought that Radstone Road to Brackley was closed as well as the A43, but it was in fact the road to Radstone off the junction off the A43.

DB explained that a lot of work had been done with Brackley Town Council and local publications used to advertise the road closures.

Cllr RH noted that there were significant potholes on Radstone Road.

ACTION: RH to send details to GP of description of the location of pothole.

Cllr PL thanked CJ for presentation and SD/ DB for contributions.

SD and DB extended their thanks to GP for his help over the last year.

4. Silverstone International Railway discussion

AL outlined that the Silverstone circuit had approached her with aspirations to have the greenest Grand Prix and that would be willing to pay for a Silverstone Holt on HS2 that they would propose to use for 4 days a year. AL has written to relevant Ministers. AL has requested that they come to site, talk to residents to understand the opportunity. This could be an opportunity to improve the BCR for the first leg of HS2 now that the remaining legs are not being taken forward.

There were mixed views from the group, some felt they would be supportive, and others felt that it would mean more housing, pressure on local services and increase in house prices as London and Birmingham would become easily commutable. AL encouraged residents to write to her.

5.AOB

AP raise that only getting a generic email response from the Construction Commissioner.

CJ confirmed that he knew it was being processed and MS advised that HS2 would look into.

ACTION: HS2 to chase up response to AP from Construction Commissioner and to respond to AP

GL raise the issue of increased construction traffic on the B4525 and lack of safe crossing and cycleway/ footway to woods.

EC explained that it had been looked at in the past and providing a footway in the verge would be in the region of £1m.

Cllr B-W encouraged GL to raise the issue via Syresham Parish Council and Cllr Bambridge.

A question was also raised whether the Site Access Road was still looking to be used for a cycleway once the project had been completed? CllrTB-W confirmed that discussions were ongoing about the SAR and it's use as a cycleway.

NM highlighted that the land the SAR is on will go back to the landowner unless there is another agreement in place.

Date of future meetings:

- 16th February 10.30am

CLOSED ACTIONS

Date of action	Action	Status
15/09/23	WNC to write to NH to request that they ensure that there is a representative in attendance at this meeting	Closed
15/09/23	EKFB to arrange site visit with Radstone in relation to PRowS and to see piling methodology and source of 'clanging'	Closed
15/09/23	EC to speak to road safety team to clarify whether any improvements are proposed on the B4525	Closed.
15/09/23	Cllr Bagot-Webb to write to Assistant Director for Planning requesting consultation on the masts	Closed
15/09/23	EKFB to arrange meeting with Radstone to provide further information and details on noise barrier location	Closed

