

Contact our HS2 Helpdesk team on **08081 434 434**

# HS2 Update

Stoneleigh, Ashow, Kenilworth and Burton Green | March 2023

High Speed Two (HS2) is the new high speed railway for Britain. This update provides information about upcoming work on Phase One of the railway in Warwickshire.

## Opening the new Burton Green Village Hall

Written by the Burton Village Hall Trustees

There has been a village hall in Burton Green since 1921. The first building, for the tiny community at that time, was a mainly wooden construction. It had one main room with a small stage, a kitchen and outside lavatories. This was replaced in 1982 by the present brick-built hall, funded by community donations and local benefactors, and further extended and enhanced in 1995.

Going back to March 2010, as Burton Green Village Hall committee members, we poured over the recently released plans for a new high speed train line between London and Birmingham. We quickly realised, with some

trepidation, that the track could be laid within a few metres of the village hall, along the route of a disused railway which had become the Kenilworth Greenway. Over the coming months and years, the route was finalised, and the railway would indeed be situated directly behind the existing hall.

It was agreed with HS2 early on, that the existing hall would be unviable as a community venue in its current position during the construction stage and beyond when the railway was operational; the old hall would have to be demolished.

**Click here to read HS2's media release and watch the video about the new village hall** or scan the QR code.



The new Burton Green Village Hall at dusk

## Upcoming events

We are hosting drop-in events. Find out more **here** or scan the QR code.



Keep up to date with our employment opportunities **here** or scan the QR code.



Read about our upcoming works **here** or scan the QR code.



The community, with the agreement of HS2, wanted the third village hall to be an updated version of the existing hall with facilities to ensure alignment with current building regulations and the needs of a growing population.

Together with members of the community, local councillors and planning officers, a site at the top of Red Lane in Burton Green was selected as the best option for the new hall. This was land already acquired by HS2 and had the benefit of an elevated open position with magnificent views over the fields to the three spires of Coventry.

Following a tendering process, the village hall committee commissioned Dave Benn and John Viner of VB architects to produce a plan for the hall and manage the construction. The village hall trustees appointed Deeley Construction to build the hall to the design produced by VB architects and we are delighted with the end result.

We have an amazing and beautiful main hall, the exposed oak trusses with multiple windows at two different heights being a particularly attractive feature. In the old hall we had a maple dance floor, this has been replicated as far as possible with a Junckers beech floor suitable for a range of fitness and dance activities and functions. This beech flooring is also laid in the smaller meeting or committee room as well as our second largest room, to be known as the Tacon Room after our Treasurer, Peter Tacon, who sadly died suddenly in the midst of planning the new hall.

The new hall has the facility to cater for large groups, parties and special events e.g., weddings in its current capacity compared to its predecessor, along with a comprehensive, sparkling stainless steel commercial kitchen. The main hall and Tacon room are also fitted with the latest audio-visual equipment.

A particularly striking feature of the new building is a display of three magnificent



Jeremy Wright MP, Cheryl Wall Burton Green Village Hall Chair, and HS2 Senior Project Manager Alan Payne pictured with the trust by the new hall

stained glass windows in the foyer, designed and created by local artist, Vicki Aizlewood.

These symbolise Burton Green's past, present and future (including a HS2 train!) and were influenced by drawings from children at Burton Green C of E Primary School. The extensive grounds have been landscaped and planted with native shrubs and trees; wild grass seeds will be sown later this year to create an attractive meadow area.

We were finally handed the keys to the new building on 3 February 2023, a momentous and quite emotional day for all concerned in the project. We will be inserting a new time capsule in our hall to commemorate.

The previous hall was popular with both community and commercial users and all existing regular users transferred their activities to the new building at the end of February 2023. Examples include health and fitness groups, children's activities, community-led groups such as stitch group, choir and wine club, as well as long standing membership groups such as W.I. Anyone interested in hiring the hall can contact our booking team at **[bgvhbookings@gmail.com](mailto:bgvhbookings@gmail.com)**

Burton Green's new hall will serve the whole community and with its current capacity we hope it will be a facility of which the whole village can be proud. You can find the Burton Green Village Hall online at **[burtongreenvillagehall.co.uk](http://burtongreenvillagehall.co.uk)**

## Sharing our proposals to temporarily extend the A46 Main Compound

We held public consultation events in December 2022 to seek feedback on our proposals to temporarily extend the A46 Main Compound near Stoneleigh. 61 people attended our events and nearly half gave feedback. We are proposing to store more construction materials from 2023/4 to 2028.

### In summary, our proposals include:

- Stockpiling soil and storing steel reinforcement, drainage, and precast concrete
- Providing new site access off Stoneleigh Road
- Clearing the site
- Delivering internal site access and haul roads
- Building security cabins and vehicle wash areas
- Retaining and protecting Kings Wood

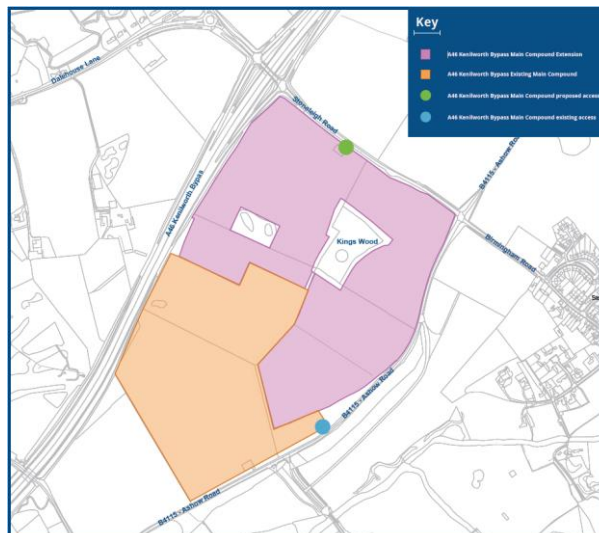
### Community benefits during our temporary works:

- Our new site access off Stoneleigh Road means our Heavy Good Vehicles (HGVs) will not be using the B4115 Ashow Road
- Reducing traffic disruption by streamlining our construction vehicle movements
- Boosting biodiversity by seeding wildflowers

### Traffic management

Our proposals will significantly reduce HS2 construction vehicle movements on the B4115 Ashow road and help reduce movements on other local roads. This would be achieved by introducing a new access to the A46 Kenilworth Bypass Main Compound via the A46 Kenilworth Bypass and Stoneleigh Road. As a result, our construction vehicles will only travel a short distance on Stoneleigh Road and avoid using other local roads.

We are considering your feedback and will submit our planning application to Warwick District Council in the coming months. You can [view more about our proposals here](#) or scan the QR code.



Map showing existing and proposed access to the A46 Main Compound



Wildflower meadows like this are home to many different forms of wildlife and help to boost biodiversity



Indicative image of what the site could look like when it is reinstated to agricultural land



## Closing Cromwell Lane this spring

We will be closing Cromwell Lane during the Warwickshire school holidays (Easter, May half-term and summer) for several weeks. We will be moving, connecting, and testing the utilities under the existing road. We will then begin dismantling the old bridge to build the Burton Green Tunnel. We hosted drop-in event with over 30 attendees in Burton Green on 16 March 2023 to explain more about our works and answer questions from the community. We are planning to host future drop-in events in Burton Green and will advertise them on HS2 in your area and locally before.

## Delivering Coventry to Leamington Spa Rail Overbridge this summer



Constructing the box bridge for the Coventry to Leamington Spa rail Overbridge

This summer, following excavation works last year and the creation of a concrete platform, we will be using a 'box jacking' technique to push a concrete tunnel under the Coventry to Leamington Spa railway. The technique involves the reinforced concrete tunnel or 'box' being pushed or 'jacked' under the A46 using hydraulic pistons. This concrete tunnel will then form the Coventry to Leamington Spa Rail Overbridge.

We are aiming to complete the box jack in July 2023 during a week long railway closure when we will slide the new concrete tunnel underneath. This process is much quicker than the traditional method of disconnecting then reinstating the existing line once the works are finished.

## Progressing with the A46 box jack structure

We are installing a box jack structure under the A46 by the Main Compound which will use the same technique as the Coventry to Leamington Spa Overbridge to push a concrete tunnel under the existing road. This concrete tunnel will eventually form the A46 Overbridge which the new HS2 railway will then pass through. Using the box jack technique allows traffic to continue to flow above while we install the new line underneath. We expect to build the box jack by 2024.



Progressing earthworks to build the box jack structure under the A46 by 2024



Progressing earthworks to build the box jack structure under the A46

## Your new local point of contact

We are excited to welcome back Balfour Beatty VINCI's (BBV) Gurcharan Singh as the new Community Engagement Specialist for your area.

Gurcharan will be overseeing community engagement from Dalehouse Lane by the A46 Kenilworth Bypass to Burton Green. He will be the point of contact for local stakeholders, businesses and residents based in Kenilworth, Burton Green, and Westwood Heath.

He will be responding to your queries and hosting future drop-in events where we will be sharing the latest construction updates with you.

Please see the final page of this newsletter to find out how to get in touch with the HS2 Helpdesk.



Gurcharan Singh - Balfour Beatty VINCI  
Community Engagement Specialist

## HS2 funds for the community

We are offering two funds that are available to local communities and businesses between the West Midlands and London, to help with the disruption caused by our construction work. These are the **Community and Environment Fund (CEF)** and the **Business and Local Economy Fund (BLEF)**.

The CEF is designed to give communities the opportunity to share in the benefits of HS2. It is an allocated fund that communities can apply for, to help to support local projects that aim to improve their local area.

The BLEF is designed to support local economies that may be disrupted by the construction of HS2. BLEF grants are for local business support organisations and local authorities to help maintain business activity in local communities. **For more information about each of these funds, including how to apply, please click here** or scan the QR code to the right.



## Community investment

BBV's Community Investment programme enables us to support those communities most impacted by our works. BBV and our supply chain partners can give back by volunteering our time, providing resources, and sharing our knowledge and skills. Please contact us at **communityinvestment@balfourbeattyvinci.com** to request support.

## Supporting the Coventry Way Challenge

The Annual Coventry Way Challenge is planned to take place on 2 April 2023 this year. The 40-mile route from Berkswell to Coventry can be run, walked, or completed as a relay team.



To minimise any disruption to this year's event, we are making sure that all Public Right of Ways along the route will be open for participants to use. We will also be organising for the route map to be printed and distributed to all those involved. You can **find out more about the Challenge here** or scan the QR code.

We wish everyone taking part in this year's challenge good luck!



### **Supplying utility flags to Earl Shilton Trials Club**

Earl Shilton Trials Club was formed in 1989, to introduce riders to one of the safest forms of motorcycle sport – Trials. The club's membership now consists of over 300 families. They run 11 events each year with a range of classes.

We were contacted by a resident in Burton Green who informed us that the club needed flags to create new trials for kids and map out routes. The club uses coloured flags to mark out trail routes, each needing about 100 flags of the same colour. We donated and upcycled yellow utility flags that we normally use for construction.

We are planning to donate more flags and concrete drains and tubes to create new obstacles on the club's courses.

### **Donating Christmas tree to Burton Green**

Each year, Burton Green Residents' Association (BGRA) sets up a Christmas tree at the junction of Red Lane and Cromwell Lane. Unfortunately, BGRA could not maintain the electricity supply for the lights in Christmas 2022. The group later asked BBV and utilities sub-contractor, Morrison, to find a solution.

We worked hard over many months with the local authorities, Burton Green Parish Council and BGRA, to devise a plan to install a new electricity supply by connecting the tree to nearby streetlighting. The new electricity supply will make trees safe to light in the future. We are looking forward to working with stakeholders to implement a permanent solution.

In addition to providing an electricity supply, we donated a Christmas tree to the village and have offered to supply another one with energy efficient lights for Christmas 2023.

### **Donating trees to local schools and charities**

We are committed to boosting sustainability by supporting local projects that have a community benefit. We have donated trees to local schools, including Burton Green C of E Primary School, Corley Academy in Coventry, and Park Hill Junior School in Kenilworth, to help them make environmental improvements and improve their own sustainability credentials.

We recently donated 300 trees to Forest of Hearts, a local charity with the mission to create a greener, healthier and more sustainable future where people and nature thrive.



Visualisation of the new Kenilworth Greenway that will form part of the Coventry Way Challenge in future



HS2 and BBV donating 300 trees to Coventry school

## FAQ

Some of our most commonly asked questions in your area

**Q: Why can't utility contractors do all their work on Cromwell Lane in one go to prevent disruption?**

A: Unfortunately, due to the narrow road and proximity of utilities to each other, it would be unsafe to try do two at the same time. Moving utilities can be difficult and there are specific regulations regarding the interaction between gas mains, electricity, telecommunications infrastructure, sewers and water mains.

**Q: How are you mitigating against vibration caused by construction?**

A: We are aware that vibration from construction activity may be felt by those living or working nearby. We continuously monitor the levels of vibration at locations around our worksites along the route where people could be disturbed. Our vibration monitors have set trigger alerts, which provide real-time feedback to us, allowing us to respond quickly to exceedances wherever and whenever they occur.

We aim to control vibration as much as possible at source on our construction sites. The **HS2 Code of Construction Practice** (CoCP) outlines the measures we implement to control and reduce vibration during construction. These include using quiet and low-vibration equipment, locating noisy equipment in remote areas of our sites, making sure noisy works take place during the day and placing screening and hoardings around equipment and worksites. It is extremely unlikely that any damage will be done to a building's structure or decorative finishes from vibration associated with construction or demolition work.

**Q: How are you mitigating against noise during construction?**

A: We aim to control noise as much as possible at source in our construction sites by applying management and monitoring processes known as 'Best Practicable Means' (BPM) during construction work. We currently use noise mitigation methods onsite, including hybrid generators, which are quieter than their traditional counterpart, and acoustic barriers or "noise baffles" which absorb noise from our equipment.

We continuously monitor the levels of noise at our sites. In line with best practice, our noise monitors have trigger alerts, which provide real-time feedback, allowing us to respond to exceedances wherever and whenever they occur. The CoCP outlines the measures we implement to control and reduce noise during construction.

**Q: What are you doing to prevent mud on the road left by works vehicles?**

A: We have measures in place to prevent mud from being transferred from our sites onto roads. Firstly, it is a requirement that HGVs pass through a wheel wash before leaving the site to remove any outstanding mud. Around the sites, we have "rumble strips" that will dislodge some of the loose mud stuck to HGVs. As the vehicles may still be wet, they exit the site driving over the stone and enter the site over a concrete strip which absorbs any remaining water deposited. We also have road sweepers active around the site daily. These vehicles will also venture out onto the public highway. There have been several occasions where vehicles not related to our works have taken mud out onto the highway, so we have deployed our road sweepers to prevent the further spread of deposited mud.

# Keeping you informed

We are committed to keeping you informed about work on HS2. This includes ensuring you know what to expect and when to expect it, as well as how we can help you.

## The Residents' Commissioner

The independent Residents' Commissioner oversees and monitors our commitments to you.

The commissioner's reports and our responses can be found at [www.gov.uk/government/collections/hs2-ltd-residents-commissioner](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/hs2-ltd-residents-commissioner)

The Residents' Commissioner makes sure we fulfil the commitments in the HS2 Community Engagement Strategy (<https://bit.ly/3oOA25j>).

The Residents' Commissioner can be contacted on: [residentscommissioner@hs2.org.uk](mailto:residentscommissioner@hs2.org.uk)

## Construction Commissioner

The independent Construction Commissioner regularly meets our Chief Executive Officer to raise any concerns or emerging trends across HS2.

The Construction Commissioner's role has been developed to monitor the way we manage and respond to construction complaints.

The commissioner mediates on disputes about construction, involving individuals and organisations, that we can't resolve. The commissioner advises members of the public about how to make a complaint about construction.

The Construction Commissioner can be contacted on: [complaints@hs2-cc.org.uk](mailto:complaints@hs2-cc.org.uk)

## Property and compensation

You can find out about HS2 and properties along the route by visiting:

[www.gov.uk/government/collections/hs2-property](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/hs2-property)

Find out if you can claim compensation at:

[www.gov.uk/claim-compensation-if-affected-by-hs2](http://www.gov.uk/claim-compensation-if-affected-by-hs2)

## Holding us to account

If you are unhappy for any reason you can make a complaint by contacting the HS2 Helpdesk. For more details on our complaints process, please visit:

[www.hs2.org.uk/in-your-area/contact-us/how-to-complain/](http://www.hs2.org.uk/in-your-area/contact-us/how-to-complain/)

## Contact us

Contact our HS2 Helpdesk team all day, every day of the year on:

 Freephone **08081 434 434**

 Minicom **08081 456 472**

 Email **HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk**

Write to:

**FREEPOST**

**HS2 Community Engagement**

Website **[www.hs2.org.uk](http://www.hs2.org.uk)**

To keep up to date with what is happening in your local area, visit: **[www.HS2inyourarea.co.uk](http://www.HS2inyourarea.co.uk)**

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