



HS2 is going to happen, so how should we make the best of it?

HS2 Socialise and Strategise Meeting,
Wendover Memorial Hall
24th November '23



Situation

- The threat of HS2 has blighted the Wendover Community since the announcement of the route in 2013.
- The reality of the railway could further depress the local economy unless we take positive action.
- We have an opportunity to improve the situation over the next 2-3 years, and seek your ideas and feedback

...have your say about how Wendover can make the best from the HS2 project



Agenda

- HS2 Update
 - Construction, Issues and Opportunities
- Questions and Answers
- Breakout tables
 - Water, Noise, Traffic and Environment
 - Any other issues

...have your say about how Wendover can make the best from the HS2 project



HS2 Construction update

- HS2 “Phase 1” to be built
 - Reduces congestion on West Coast Main Line for freight
 - Six London platforms limits “trains per hour” to 8, (not 18)
- Construction probably continues to 2029
 - “5 year” Green Tunnel plan still has about 4 years to run
 - Tunnel systems, track, and overhead line equipment to follow
- Train Noise and Small Dean Viaduct dominant features

Wendover Dean Viaduct



- Wendover Dean Viaduct is 450m long, and up to 16m above ground level

Small Dean Viaduct



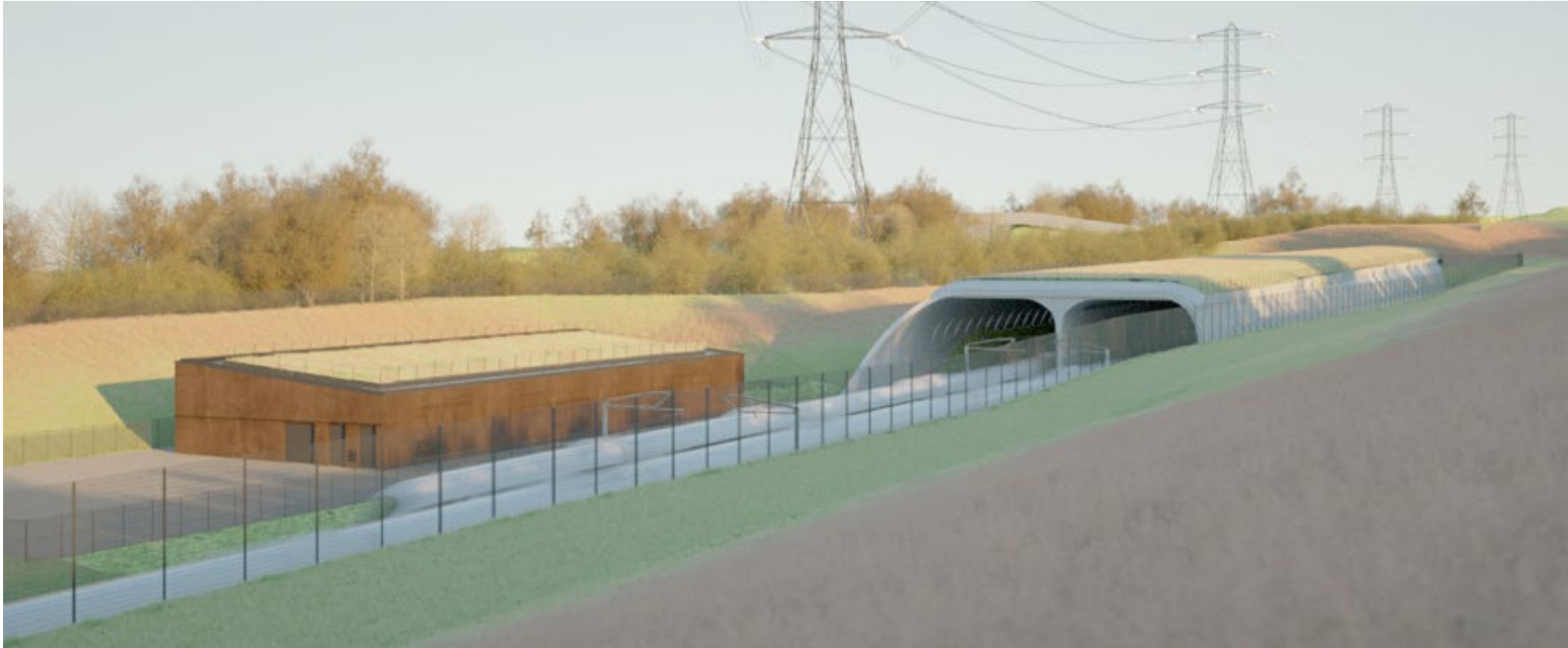
- Small Dean Viaduct is 350m long, and up to 15m above ground level
- Crosses the A413 and Chiltern Line

Small Dean North Embankment



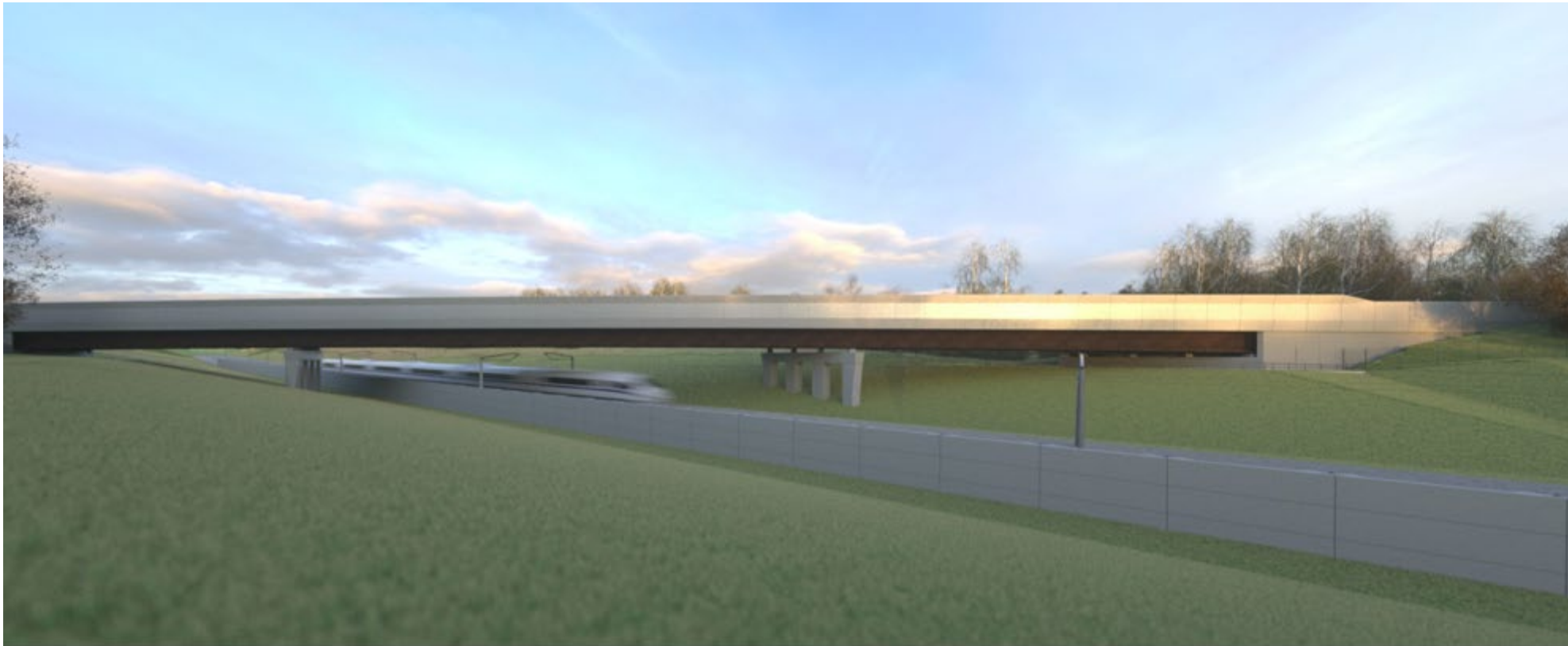
- Embankment is 700m long, and up to 16m above ground level alongside the Wendover Bypass

Wendover Green Tunnel



- “Cut and Cover” tunnel, 1400m long; from Bacombe Lane to Folly Bridge

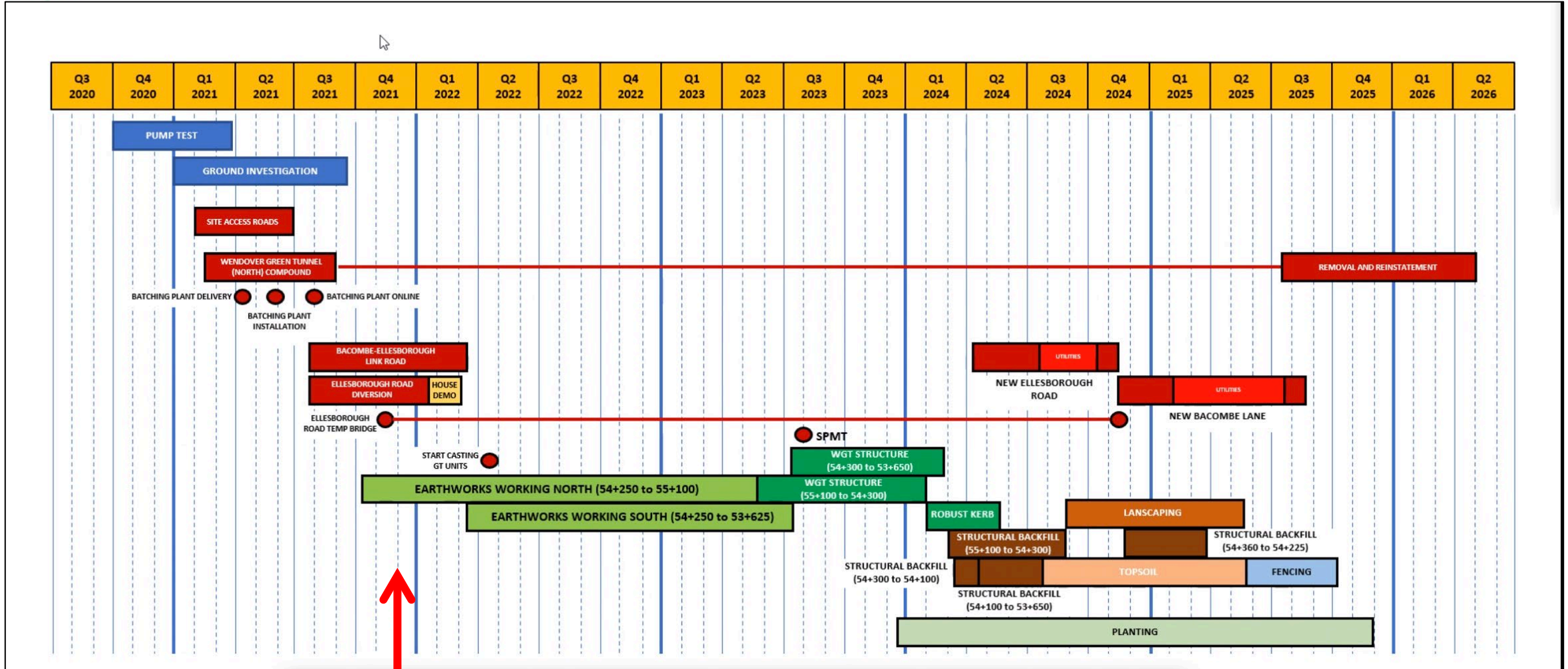
Wendover North Cutting



- Cutting is 1600m long, and down to 10m below ground level
- Folly Bridge to Nash Lee, under the Nash Lee Road



5 year Green Tunnel plan now 2 years late



Nov '23

Source: EKFB '20



Our key HS2 Issues for Wendover

- Anticipated excessive night-time peak train **noise**
 - HS2 expect 228 North Wendover homes over WHO limit
 - *We're contesting HS2's mitigation funding process*
- Wendover worsening **traffic** congestion
 - A413 Small Dean morning rush hour impacting High Street
 - *Bucks Council can't justify widening from their 2033 forecast*
- Protecting Wendover's **watercourses**
 - Underground wall at North Cutting should protect Weston Turville Reservoir and Aylesbury
 - *We're ensuring monthly monitoring of the impact*



Noise

HHS2 Socialise and Strategise Meeting,
Wendover Memorial Hall
24th November '23
Email: enquiries@whs2.org



What we've achieved

- Very Low Noise surfacing on the Bypass
- Built tools to challenge EKFB's noise predictions
- Houses affected by excess noise reduced from 306 to 228 (north Wendover)
- Discovered HS2's funding policy for peak noise mitigation does not appear to meet HS2 Act legal undertakings



Typical sound levels

Vacuum cleaner at 1m

80

Pavement of city street

Loud voice at 1m

70

Aircraft at height of 200m

Normal voice at 1m

60

**30m from petrol
lawnmower**

Open plan office

50

**Lorry at 100m, heavy
rainfall**

Refrigerator at 1m

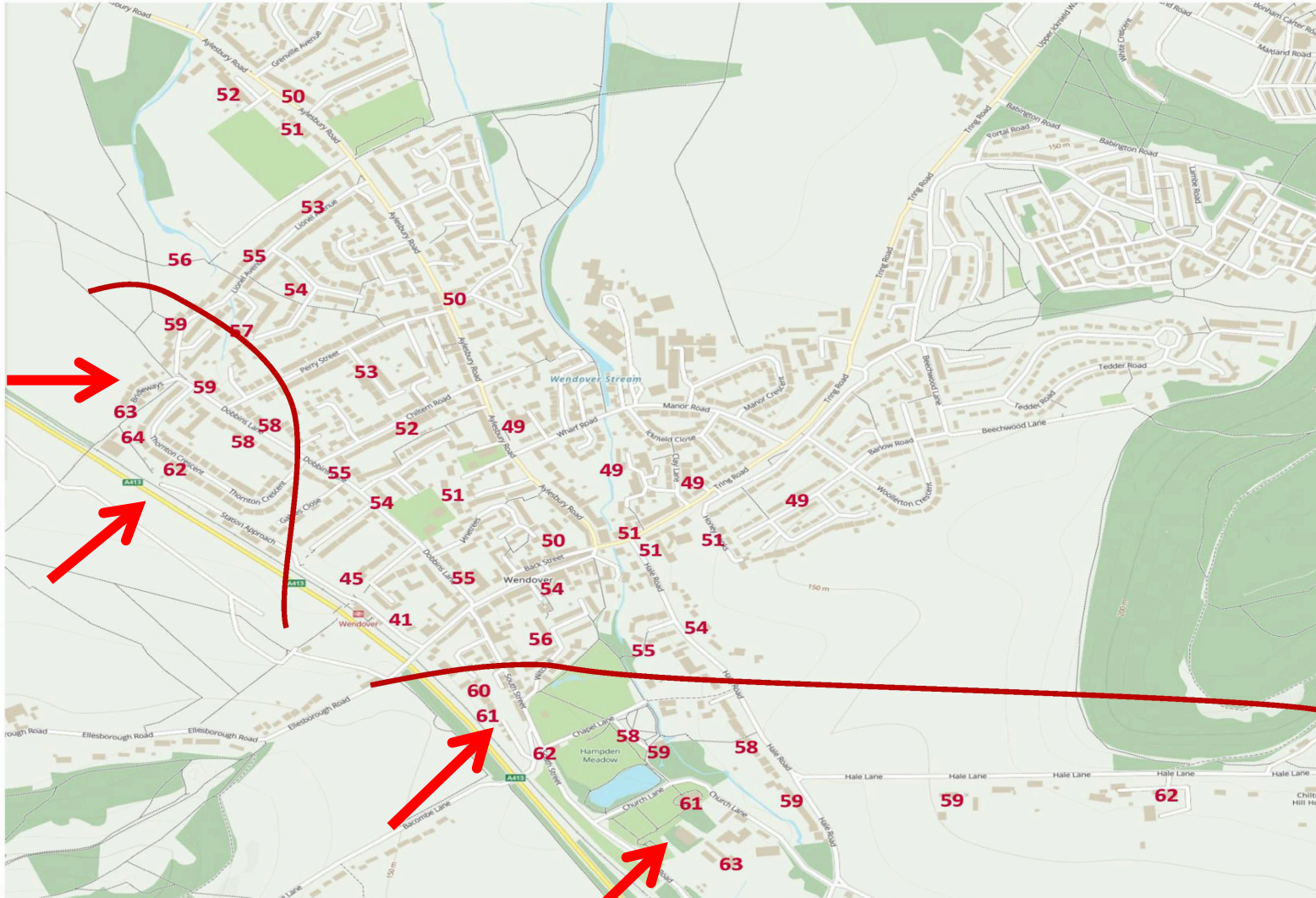
40

**Suburban area at night, no
local traffic**

- The WHO peak noise night-time threshold for sleep disturbance is 60dB
- This is included in HS2's Environmental Minimum Requirements
- Noise reflection at the façade reduces this to 57.5dB



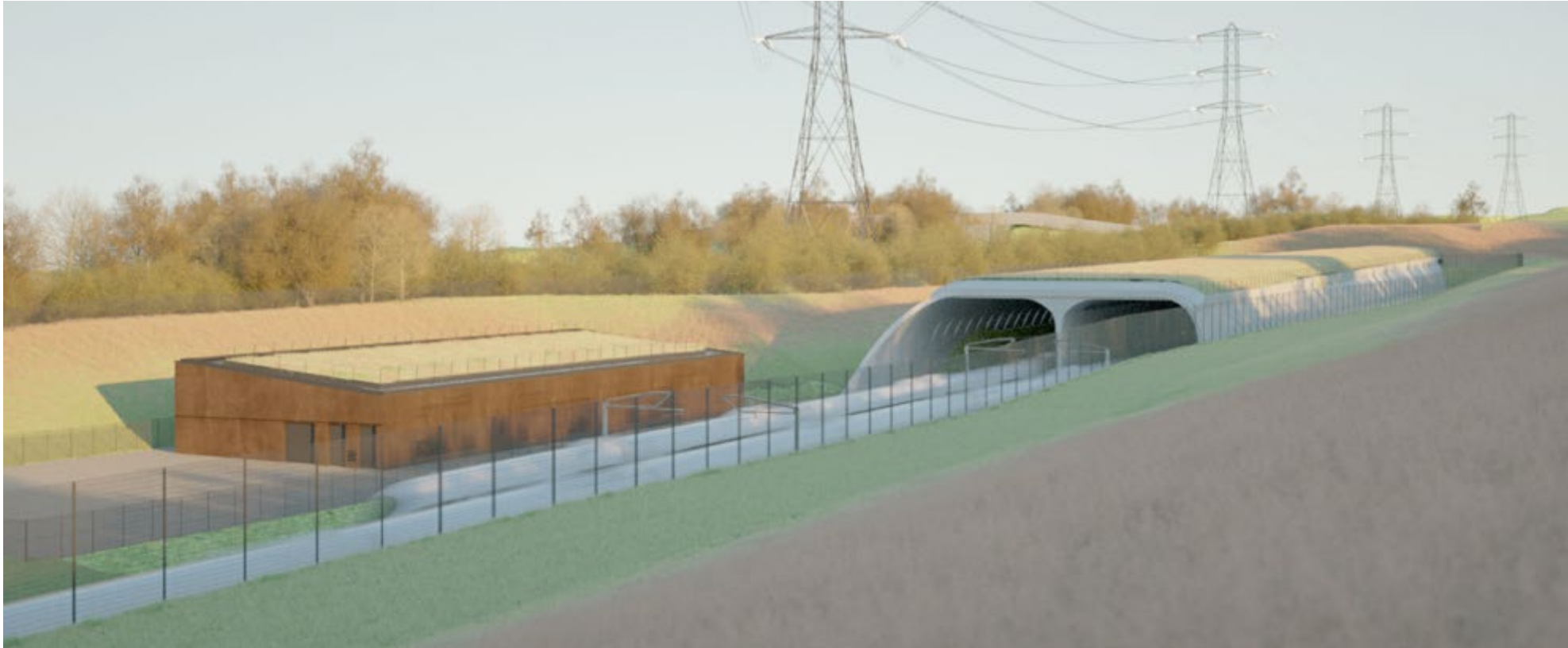
Wendover Peak train noise



- 349 Wendover homes exceed peak noise threshold
- St Mary's Church and Chiltern Way Academy close to the Small Dean Viaduct.

Source: EKFB '22

Green Tunnel North Portal

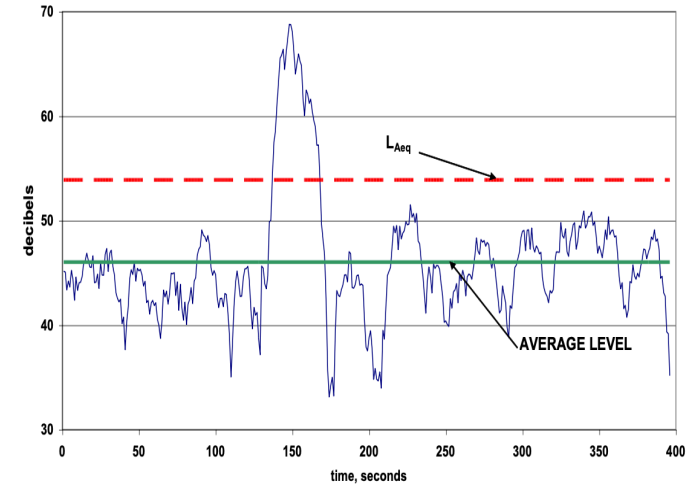


- Bridleways houses within 200 metres of the Green Tunnel portal
- Trackside noise barriers beside the portal building would give benefit



HS2 noise mitigation funding

- Noise mitigation cost/benefit analysis is based on average noise
- However peak noise may be more important to most people (when a train is passing).



- The HS2 Act includes a peak noise (LAmax) requirement of 60dB.
- HS2 have modified the cost/benefit algorithm to include LAmax.
- However this provides no benefit for values less than 65dB.

HS2 Ltd's policy effectively avoids mitigation of peak night-time noise



Currently proposed '24 initiatives

- Seek funding for better mitigation of peak noise in line with the HS2 Act undertakings
- Get clarity on how train noise will actually be measured in the community
- Get clarity on how excessive train noise will be mitigated following “Bringing into Use” assessment

DRAFT



Traffic

HS2 Socialise and Strategise Meeting,
Wendover Memorial Hall
24th November '23



What we've achieved

- Redesign of the Small Dean Viaduct to allow future widening of the A413 if needed
- Identification that Bucks Council's 15 year traffic forecast limits scope for strategic developments
- Provision of Very Low Noise surfacing on the Bypass
- Provision of electronic roadside displays to provide advanced warning of road closures
- Mitigation of road safety design flaws on the new Nash Lee Lane

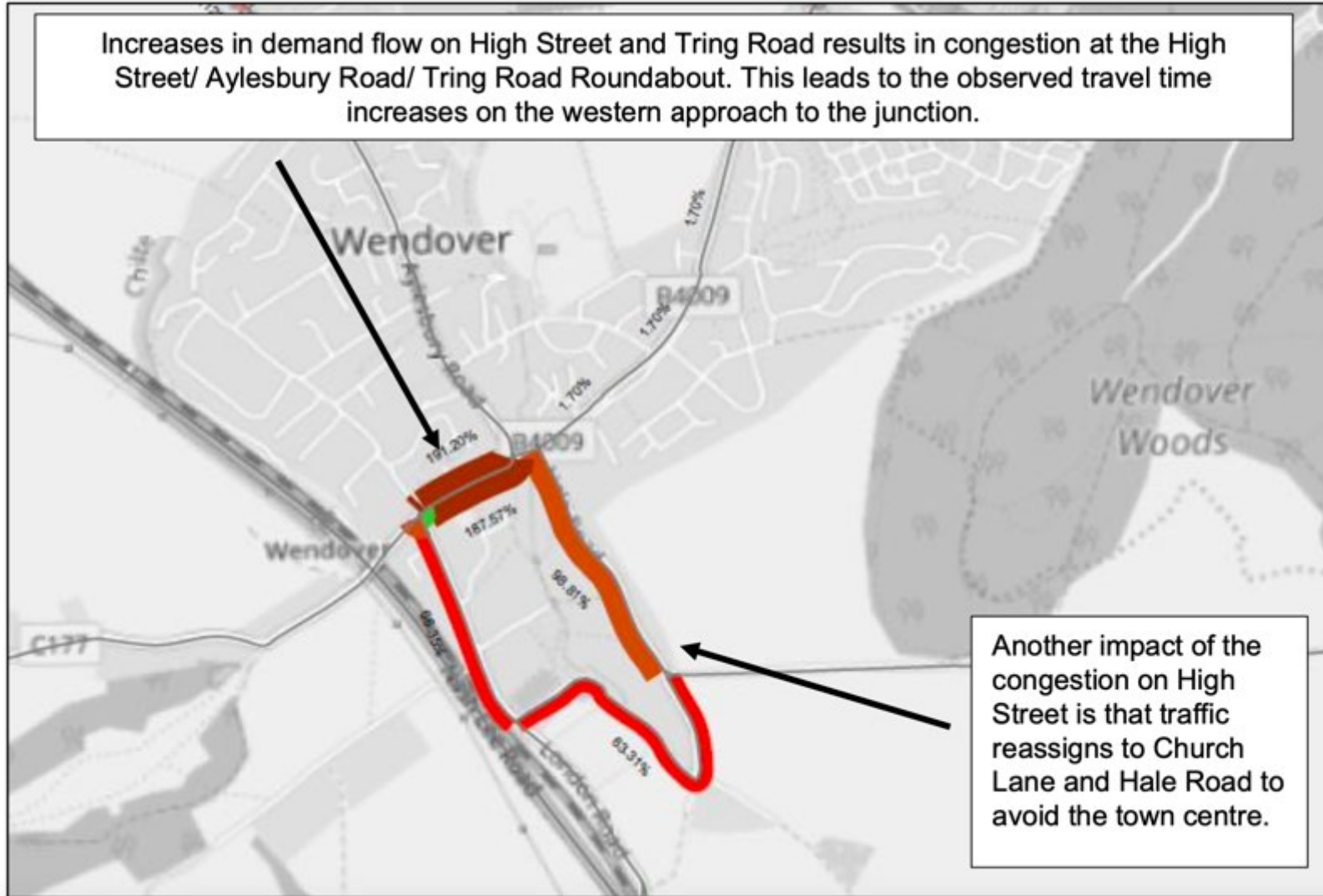
A413 under the Small Dean Viaduct



See <https://tinyurl.com/sdv2023video>

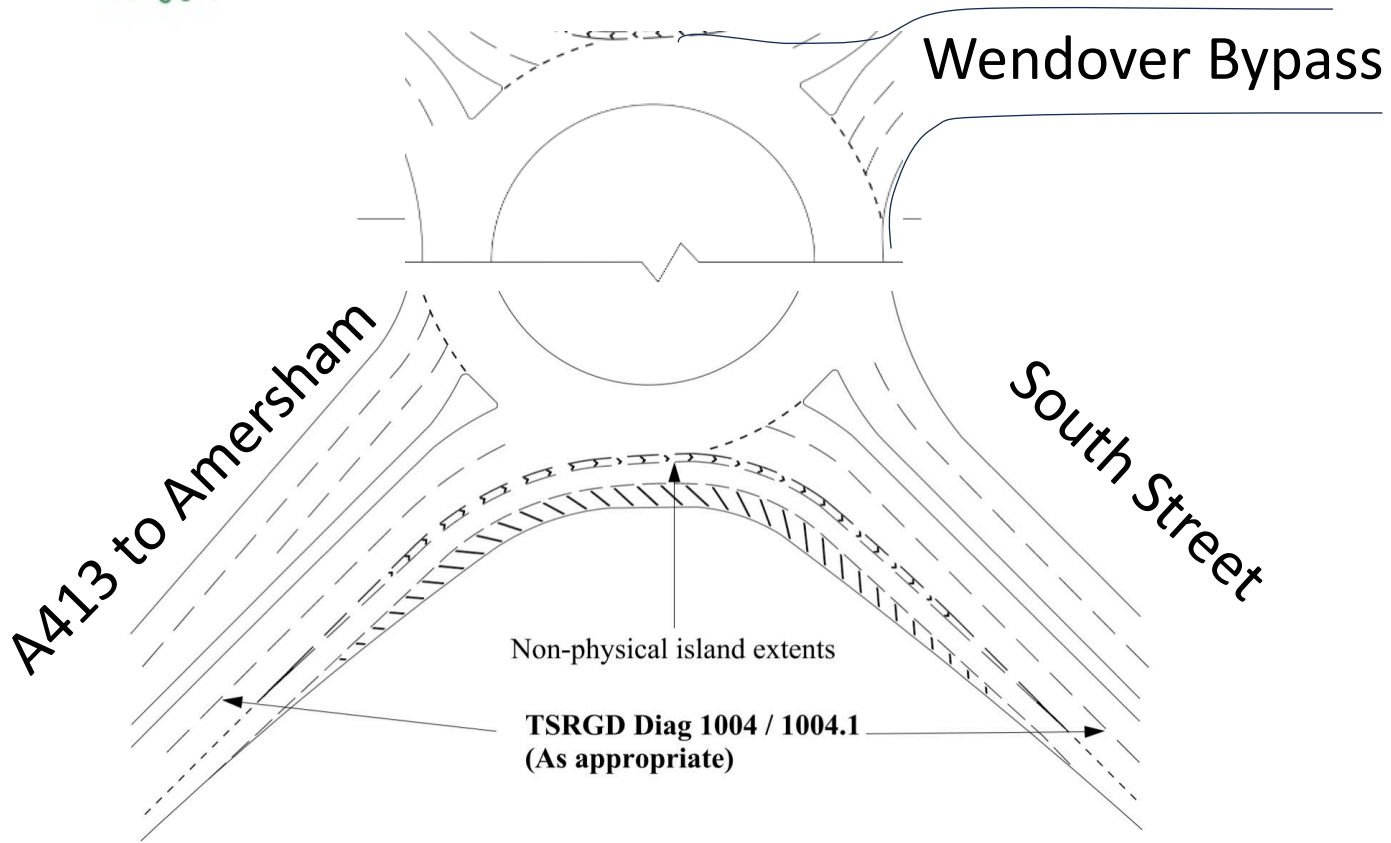


BC 2033 congestion prediction



This forecast does not include the impact of housing at RAF Halton or HS2 A413 issues.

Proposed '24 initiative



- Seek development of the A413 Small Dean roundabout with a “segregated left lane” to allow South Street vehicles to merge with morning rush-hour southbound bypass traffic.

Source: DfT CD116 “Geometric design of roundabouts”

DRAFT



Water

HS2 Socialise and Strategise Meeting,
Wendover Memorial Hall
24th November '23



What we've achieved

- Proved the threat to groundwater from the Coombe Hill Aquifer
- Forced serious consideration of the impact on Weston Turville Reservoir SSSI and Flood risk in Aylesbury
- Established Hampden Pond as a key community asset for support

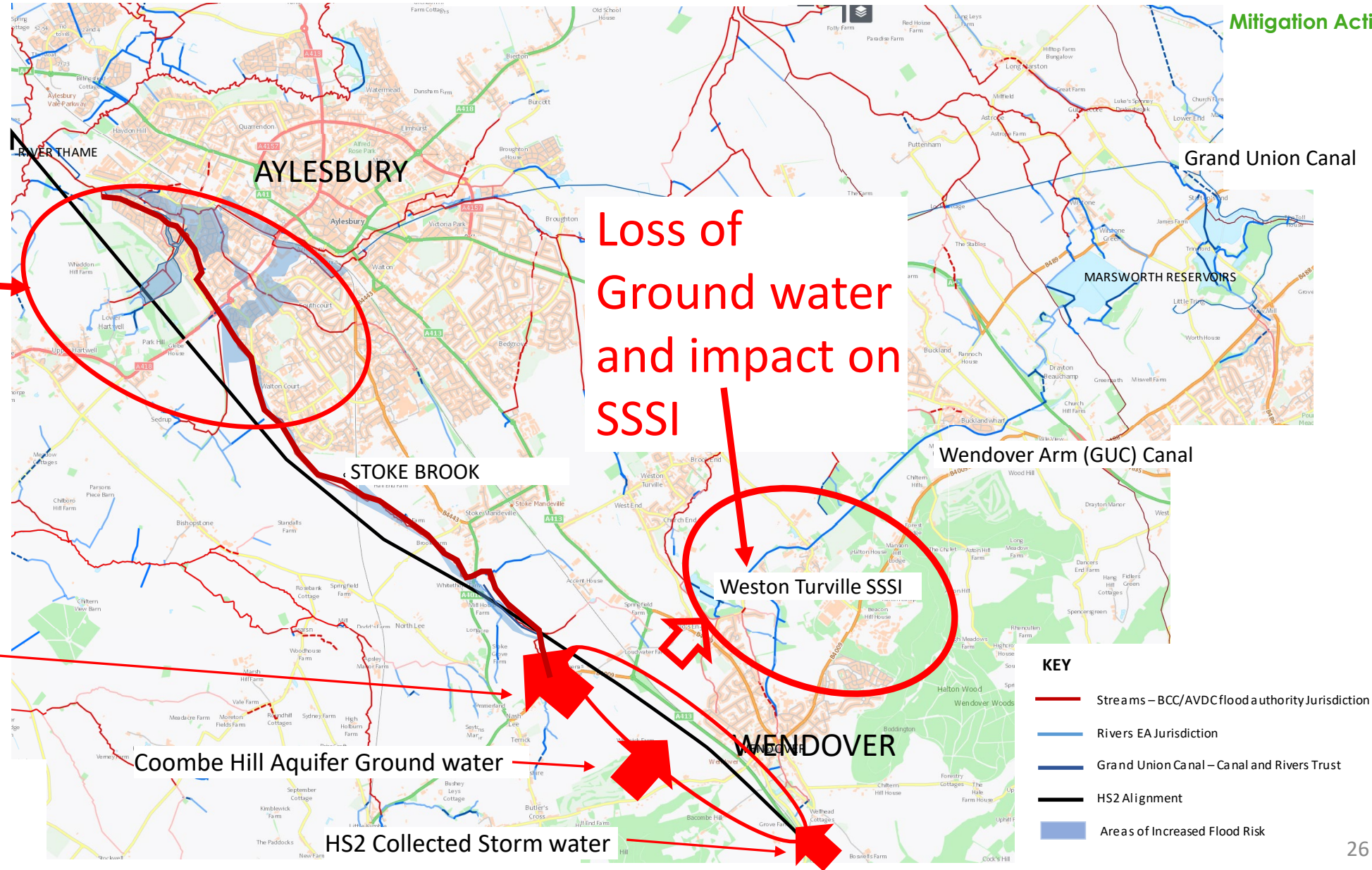


Our Concerns

Flood Risk Area

Water diverted down Stoke Brook

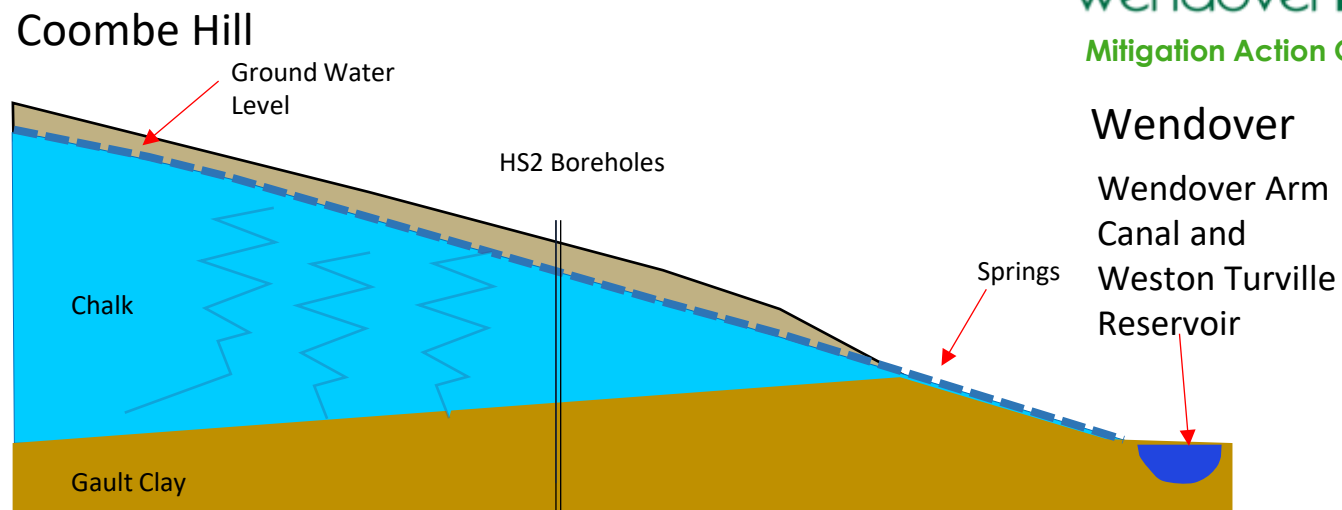
Loss of Ground water and impact on SSSI





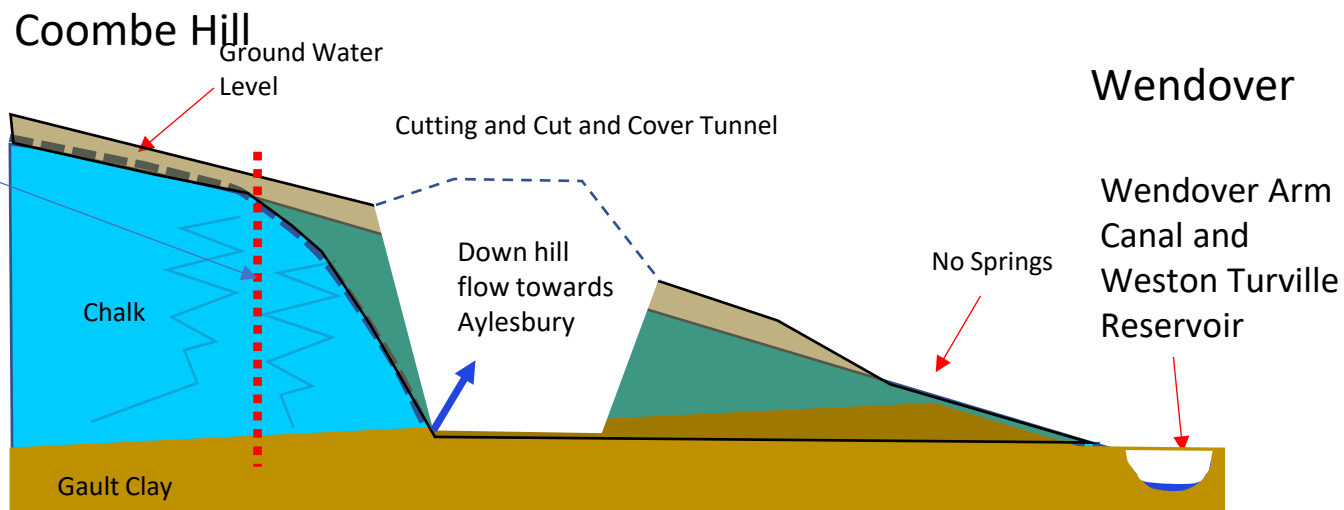
Our Concerns

- Cross section looking North
- Fissured Chalk stores ground water



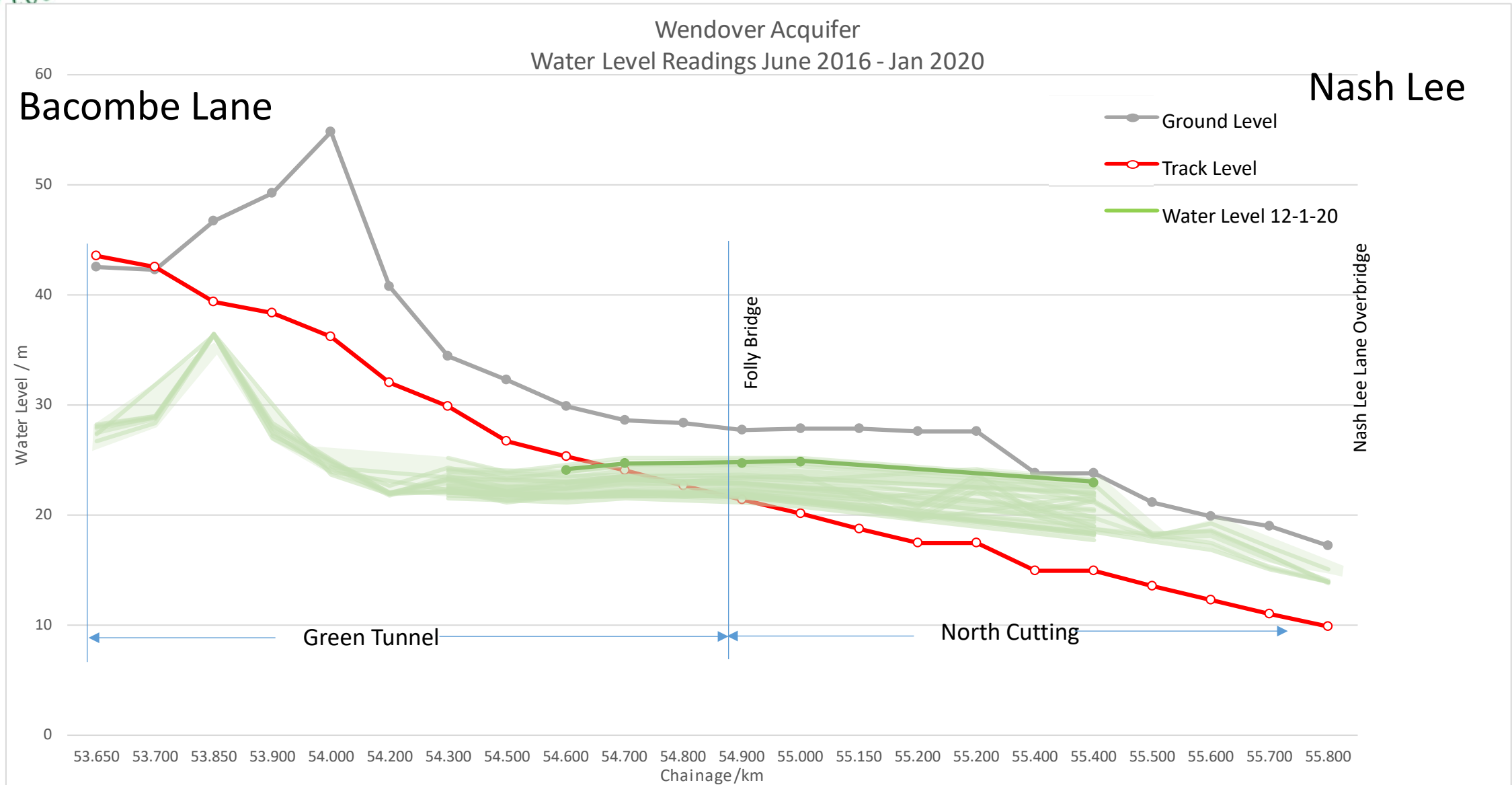
- Cutting allows ground water to escape
- Reduction in flow to the Canal

Semi-Permeable Wall





Track 5m underwater at Folly Bridge



North Cutting Aquifer mitigation



- Wall stops water flow into cutting, but allows some feed to Wendover Brook and Weston Turville SSSI
- Water flow and quality measurements on regular basis



Proposed '24 initiatives

- Ensure North Cutting groundwater monitoring data is acted upon to maintain current quality for Weston Turville Reservoir SSSI and Wendover Arm Canal
- Seek funding for Hampden Pond well to improve water level
- Push for further sources of water feed into Wendover Arm Canal from catchment ponds

DRAFT



Environment

HS2 Socialise and Strategise Meeting,
Wendover Memorial Hall
24th November '23



What we've achieved



- Surveyed community opinion on
 - the visual impact of the Small Dean Viaduct
 - the noise reduction options for the Wendover bypass
 - the reuse of the old Cricket Ground following HS2
- Reviewed HS2's monthly Construction Noise and Air Quality Reports, and escalated non-compliances



Environmental focus areas

- Land restoration or repurposing as part of future HS2 handback
- Protecting the local environment through monitoring HS2 Code of Construction Practice issues.



HS2 proposing:

- Landscaping with bushes and scrub with wildflowers
- Provision for cycle track above the tunnel

- 87% favour public access woodland, and 57% oppose a closed nature reserve.
- ~89% oppose car parking; ~64% oppose sports facilities

n = 46 responses



Land reuse target areas

- The Cricket Ground
- Ellesborough Road housing
- Ian Rennie Memorial Wood
- The 80 acre field adjacent to the Bypass
- North Portal compound and Concrete works site
- The temporary Nash Lee Lane and Road areas

HS2 expected to “restore” sites to previous state, and give previous owners first refusal to repurchase



Proposed '24 initiatives

- Support locally reported issues for non-compliance with the HS2 Code of Construction Practice, with escalation as needed
- Engage previous landowners about how land to be released by HS2 is best restored or repurposed
- Monitor monthly Construction Noise, Air Quality, and Water Quality reports

DRAFT



Other Opportunities

HS2 Socialise and Strategise Meeting,
Wendover Memorial Hall
24th November '23



HS2 Opportunities

- HS2 funded schemes
 - Community and Environment Fund (CEF)
 - <£10k, <£75k, and <£250k
 - Business and Local Economy Fund (BLEF)
 - £10k-£250k
 - BC Road Safety Fund
 - HS2 Chilterns AONB Review Group Additional Projects

Wendover Arm Canal Towpath



- Renovation from Wharf Road to Halton

Hampden Pond renovation



- Initial phase to repair banks and clear debris now complete
- Seeking funding for well to improve water levels

Misbourne Greenway Cycle track



- New cycleway between Dunsmore Lane and Great Missenden



Local Community and Environment Fund projects



- Hampden Pond Restoration (£23,269)
- Witchell Car Park Extension (£74,990)
- Wendover Scout Hut Solar Power (£10,000)
- John Colet School 3G Football Pitch (£56,250)
- Wendover Swimming Pool Refurbishment Ph 2 (£74,000)
- Chilterns MS Centre Exercise Access (£74,855)
- Chilterns Forest Golf Club Changing Rooms (£27,326)
- Wendover Woods Recreation Centre (£450,000)



In Summary

- HS2 will get built past Wendover
- We're concerned about future local Noise, Traffic and Water issues
- We're protecting the local environment
 - Getting the best "after HS2" outcome
 - Supporting your Construction related issues
- We need your feedback on our 2024 proposals



Any Questions?

1. We recognise that everyone in this room would probably like HS2 to be stopped and everything returned to before it started, tonight is focused on making things better both during and after the construction.
 - a. Can you keep questions and comments to the material in the presentations
 - b. If you have any other thoughts and comments, you can come and talk to the Parish Council at their table when we break out.
2. It's a very emotive subject – not everyone will agree with each other, but can we at least listen to each other
3. Don't assume someone else will have made your point in the breakout sessions – write it down



Currently proposed '24 initiatives

- Noise: Get clarity on how train noise will be measured, and seek funding for better mitigation
- Water: Ensure groundwater monitoring data is acted upon to maintain current quality, and seek funding for Hampden Pond improvements
- Traffic: Seek development of the A413 roundabout to limit South Street /High Street congestion
- Environment: Establish how land to be released by HS2 is best restored or repurposed

...have your say about how Wendover can make the best from the HS2 project



Have your say

- Give us your views
- Four WHS2 breakout zones
 - Watercourses, Aquifer and Hampden Pond
 - Train Noise
 - Traffic
 - Environment and Land reuse
- WPC Other Issues desk



Thanks for coming!

Further information sources:

- Wendover Parish Council website HS2 section
- Wendover HS2 website whs2.org
 - Including the slides of this event
- Updates in Wendover News

Email: enquiries@whs2.org



Tables

- Four WHS2 breakout zones
 - Watercourses, Aquifer and Hampden Pond – Andy Band
 - Train Noise – Andrew Burnett
 - Traffic – Ron Petersen and Graham Dodd
 - Environment and Land reuse – Murray Cooke
- WPC Other Issues desk
 - Julie Williams and Andy Smith