



HS2 is still happening, so how are we making the best of it?

HS2 Socialise and Inform meeting,
Wendover Memorial Hall
28th June '24



Situation

- Our working assumption is that the new Government will continue building this section of HS2
- The local construction impact is expected to take another four years.
- We have made some progress since the last meeting in November.
- We still seek your ideas and feedback

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



Agenda

- HS2 Update since last November
 - Construction Update
 - Our Key Issues and Opportunities
- Questions and Answers
- Topic tables
 - Questionnaires and Drinks



HS2 Construction update



- HS2 “Phase 1” still being 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 2028
 - “5 year” Green Tunnel plan still has about 4 years to run
- Contracts due to be placed in September?
 - Tunnel systems, track, and overhead line equipment
- No “6 monthly update” to Parliament since last November

...but there could be changes with a new Government



Local Construction update



- Small Dean Viaduct progressing well
 - Five viaduct piers now completed.
 - A413 to be realigned for final pier in August
 - Deck launch early next year
- “Mass Haul” to Stoke Mandeville due to start
 - 600,000 tons of spoil means >1000 Dump Truck trips
- Green Tunnel and North Cutting excavation still not fully approved
 - EA to review impact of North Cutting wall on groundwater flows
- Change of Contractor for Green Tunnel construction
 - EKFB expected to handover to Align JV.



Wendover Dean Viaduct



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

Wendover Dean Viaduct



- Second deck “slide” happened in May
- Final sections being welded for completion this year

Small Dean Viaduct



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

Small Dean Viaduct



- Five piers now completed
- Last pier to be built on east side of A413 following realignment

Small Dean Viaduct



- Welding of entire 350m long deck progressing
- Due for launch over A413 and railway early next year

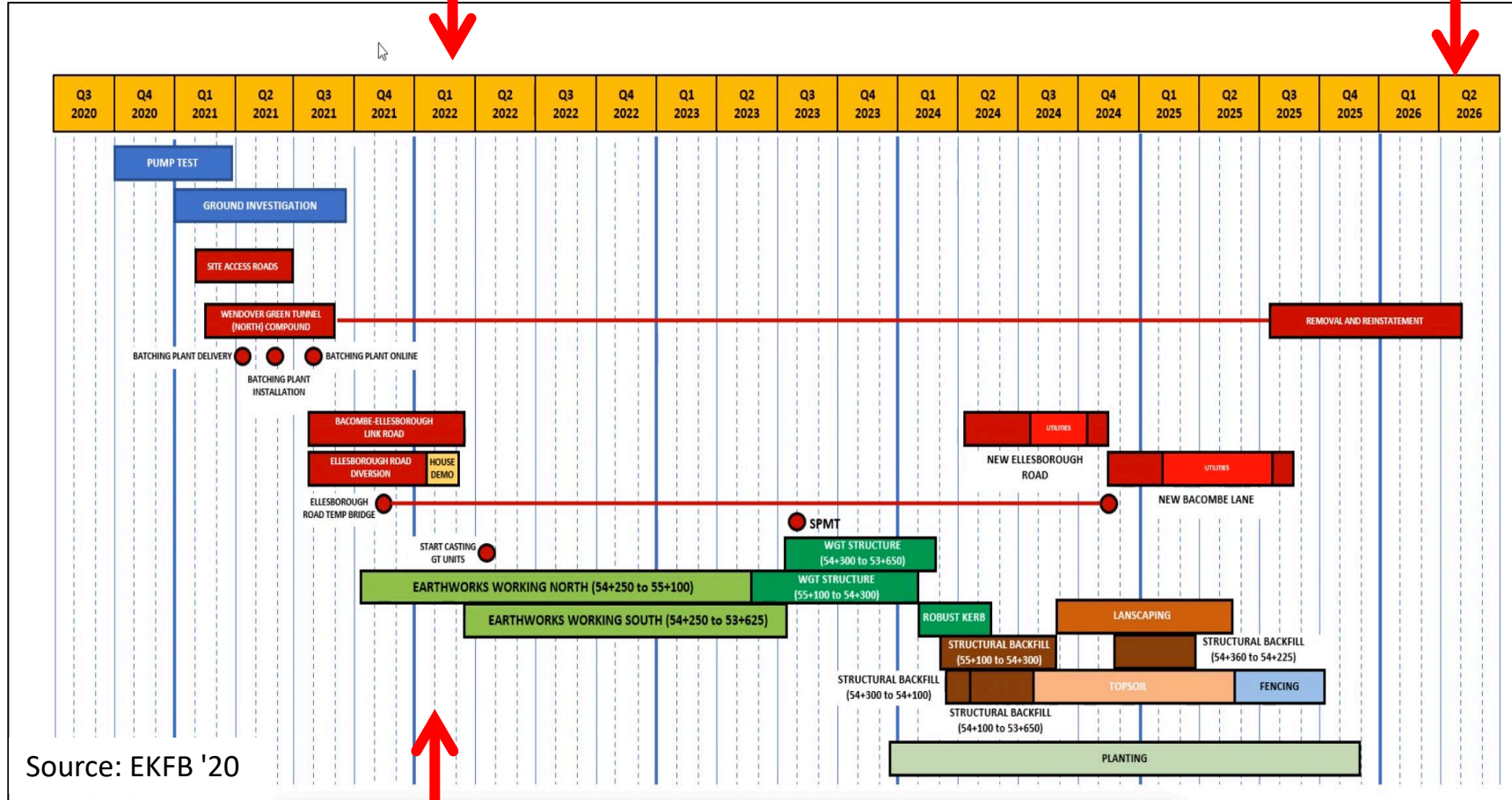
Parish Council and WHS2 site visit, May '24



5-year Green Tunnel plan; now running 2 years late

“Q1 2022”

August '28 ?



Source: EKFB '20

June '24



Off-route works impact

- Small Dean Lane bridleway
 - Closed for 16 months to allow viaduct and bridge works, despite HS2 “assurance” for safe cycleway
- New Cricket Ground being built at Tring Road
- Water cistern and drainage pipe in fields at Dobbins Lane
 - Expect HGV traffic in Wendover from September
- Dobbins Lane to Station Approach path now reopened
 - Closed for 21 months to install water supply pipe

...wider community impact of the project.



Wendover key issues

- Anticipated excessive night-time peak train **noise**
- Wendover worsening **traffic** congestion
- Protecting Wendover's **watercourses**
- Protecting Wendover's **environment**
- Support local **community engagement**



Noise

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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



Progress on '24 initiatives (1)



Seek funding for better mitigation of peak noise.

- HS2/EKFB appear in breach of an HS2 Act assurance
- Case prepared for the Transport Select Committee
- Now awaiting formation of the new Parliament

Seek landscape mitigation north of the Green Tunnel.

- Trees suggested as a noise barrier at the Nov '23 meeting
- 5dB achievable with a suitable width and mix of planting
- Support from Bucks Council discussions started
- Fallback is to discuss with the eventual land owner



Progress on '24 initiatives (2)



Additional South Street noise barrier

- HS2/EKFB considered land alongside the railway for an “earthworks bund” to mitigate noise
- Land opposite St Mary’s Church identified as a possible site
- Engineers determined that area is not suitable

Funding St Mary’s Church noise mitigation

- HS2 agreed £250k for sound attenuation work in 2016, but no money received so far
- Costs have now risen significantly
- Escalated for HS2 Ltd senior level discussion



Traffic

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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 HS2 funded 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
- **Improved signage of Ellesborough Road diversion ***

* Updated 3/24



Progress on 2024 initiatives

1. Seek solution to South Street rush hour congestion due to A413 restrictions
 - **Bucks Transport Strategy to review use of Hale Road and roundabout changes**
2. Seek funding commitment for Wendover Bypass Low Noise Surface renewal *
 - **Bucks Council HS2 team checking ringfenced budget**
3. Seek safe cyclepath between Wendover and Dunsmore following Small Dean Lane Bridleway closure *
 - **Bucks Council HS2 team seeking support from EKFB and Highways**
4. Seek repair of Dunsmore Lane damaged by closures of the A413 at Small Dean *
 - **Bucks Highways surveying what repairs are needed**

* Revised 4/24

A413 under the Small Dean Viaduct



- New cycleway and 40 mph speed limit

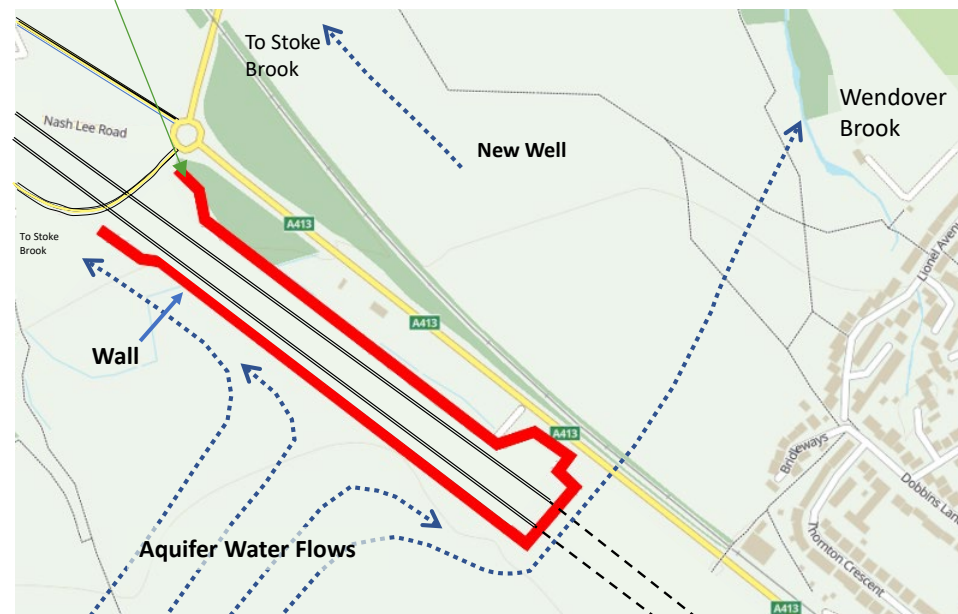
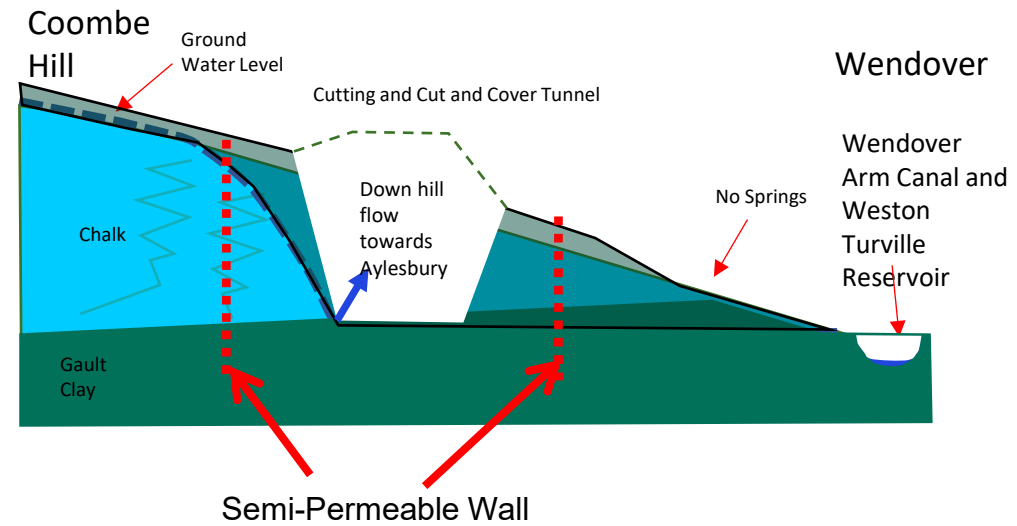


Water

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North Cutting Groundwater

- Cutting causes ground water escape North to Stoke Brook
- HS2 Solution is to build semi permeable wall
- Add a new well chamber to promote stream flow north of the cutting





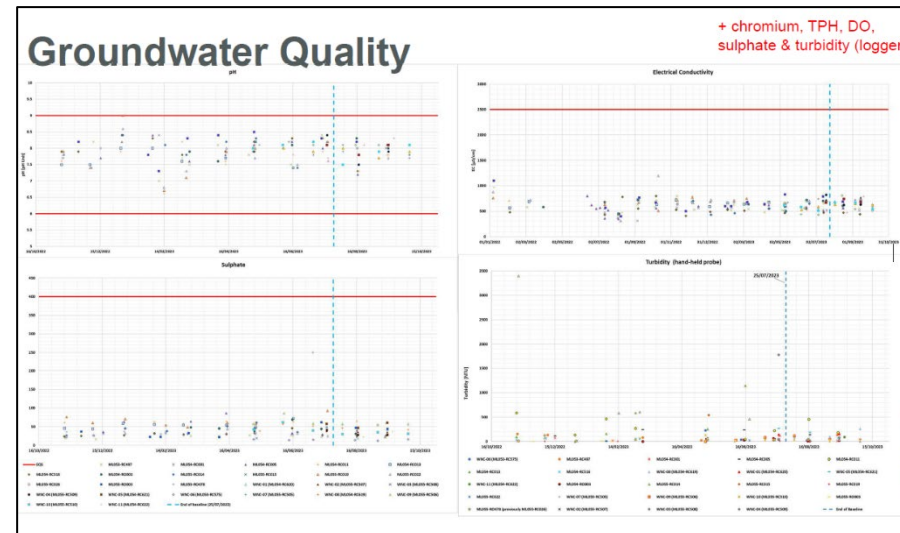
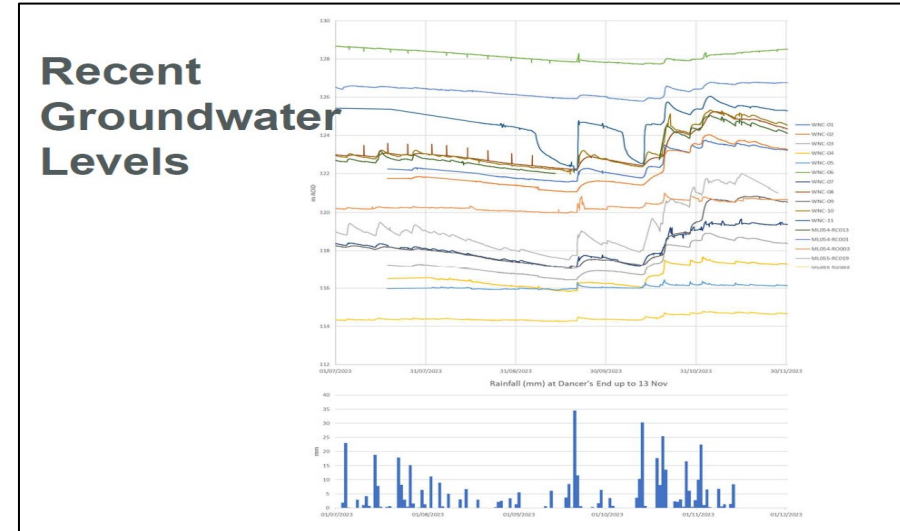
Clam Type Excavator for Permeable Wall

- Temporary Discharge pipeline in place
- Excavation for the underground tanking wall about to start, following Environment Agency consent
- Chamber works at end of Dobbins Lane – Q3 2024



What we've achieved

- Proved the threat to the Coombe Hill Aquifer
- Forced consideration of the impact on Weston Turville Reservoir SSSI & Flood risk to Aylesbury
- Forced EA to review and monitor impacts
- Established Hampden Pond as a key community asset for support



Examples of Feedback presented to WPC by EKFB/HS2

Hampden Pond Recharge

Hampden Pond Groundwater Levels



Proposed borehole location

1. Objective is to improve consistency of water levels
2. Idea is to sink one or two Artesian boreholes
3. Feasibility Assessment and seeking HS2 Community Funding



Environment

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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
 - Improved reliability of Ellesborough Road monitoring *
- Gained details of the HS2 Overhead Catenary System *

* Updated 3/24



Progress on 2024 initiatives



1. Support local HS2 Code of Construction Practice issues, with escalation as needed
 - **Handling about 10 issues a month**
2. Investigate design of HS2 Overhead Line Equipment *
 - **Raised FOI requests and pictures now available**
3. Determine how land to be released by HS2 is best restored or repurposed
 - **Bucks Council HS2 team confident of protecting the Green Belt and Natural Landscape**
4. Monitor monthly Construction Noise, Air Quality, and Water Quality reports
 - **Resolved inadequate performance of Ellesborough Rd monitor**

* Revised 11/23

Single Cantilever Mast



SNCF Tours-Bordeaux



HS2 are buying the French SNCF V360 Catenary system



Land Restoration

1. Based on the currently approved EKFB design...
 - Provision made for a future cycleway between Ellesborough Road and Nash Lee
 - Land where Ellesborough Road cottages were demolished will be landscaped
 - The old Cricket Pavilion will be demolished
2. Bucks Council confident that they will be able to ensure restoration of land to its original state
3. Any subsequent development would be subject to Town and Country Planning rules, requiring “Very Special Circumstances” for any development within the Green Belt.



Community Engagement

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Recent achievements

- Reopening of the path between Dobbins Lane and the Station Approach Business Park
- Commitment to bury the “temporary” water pipe in the Dobbins Lane fields
- Public meeting for Dobbins Lane /Lionel Avenue residents about future works and HGV movements
- Consolidation of WPC, WHS2, and EKFB meetings to improve effective liaison and engagement

Recent achievements



- Commitment to bury the “temporary” water pipe in the Dobbins Lane fields



Progress on 2024 initiatives



1. Support local initiatives seeking HS2 Community and Business support
 - **Supported two bids**
2. Support to Parish Council's engagement with HS2 Contractors
 - **Fortnightly Key Issues briefings**
 - **Five cases escalated to Bucks Council**
3. Provide regular community updates on HS2 works
 - **Monthly articles in Wendover News**



Other Opportunities

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HS2 Opportunities



- HS2 funding 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
- EKFB Social Value support funds



Wendover Arm Canal Towpath



- Renovation from Wharf Road to Halton
- Official opening today



Wendover Cricket Ground



- Work in progress behind the Vets on Tring Road



Local Community and Environment Fund projects



- **Lindengate Community & Education Hub (£72,800) ***
- 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)

* Updated 6/24



Make Wendover Smile

BRING JOY TO THE VILLAGE
CREATE COMMUNITY SPIRIT

SUNFLOWER TRAIL SATURDAY 3RD AUGUST

- EKFB made £200 contribution to the Parish Council's Sunflowers Campaign
- £450 for Planters as part of the Wendover Library refurbishment





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



Any Questions?

1. Everyone in this room would probably like HS2 to be stopped.
2. This isn't going to happen, so let's make the best of it.
3. Can you keep questions and comments to the material in the presentations
4. If you have any other thoughts and comments, you can come and talk to us at the "Listening to you" table when we break out.
5. Don't assume someone else will have made your point at the topic tables – write it down



Have your say

- Five WHS2 topic tables
 - Watercourses, Aquifer and Hampden Pond
 - Train Noise
 - Traffic
 - Environment and Land reuse
 - Community Engagement and Opportunities
- “Listening to You” table
- Give us your feedback,
and we’ll give you a drink!





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