

ESSENTIAL MAINTENANCE WORKS:

A5 JACK'S HILL Multi-Disciplinary Project

Update Bulletin 4 – 19.3.2020

Since my last update on 12th February 2020, we have completed vegetation clearance and tree removal in **Phases 1 and 2, from Tove Roundabout (A43) to Northampton Road (Litchborough).**

These works were extended so that our specialist contractors could deal with windblown treefall and debris resulting from Storm Brendan.

Works are continuing in **Phase 1, which runs northwards from Tove roundabout (A43) to the Banbury Lane / Butcher's Lane crossroads in Foster's Booth**, although we have completed CCTV surveys of existing drainage pipelines and repairs to some of those pipelines using trenchless technology. We have substantially completed the clearing of vegetation from footpaths, repairs to the balance of existing drainage pipelines by excavating trenches, installation of new pipelines and headwalls to those pipelines where they enter ditches, re-forming roadside ditches and breaking out existing kerb lines to replace them with an integral kerbing and drainage system.

During the excavation of trial holes to locate mains and services, it was found that a substantial length of existing kerbing on the southbound side had gas and water mains running directly beneath. As a result, we have had to order shallower kerb / drainage units than expected and change the drainage outfall system. As I'm sure you will appreciate, the presence of the gas and water mains will make the process of removal and replacement of the existing kerb lines with the shallower type slower than originally planned. We have also been advised by our suppliers that, due to restrictions now in place as a result of the Coronavirus, the shallow kerb units may not be delivered for four to five weeks. This means that unfortunately, I'm unable to give a definite completion date for our works in Phase 1.

Works are also continuing in **Phase 2, which runs northwards from Banbury Lane / Butchers's Lane crossroads in Foster's Booth to Northampton Road (Litchborough)**, although vegetation clearance, tree removal, CCTV surveys of existing drainage pipelines and repairs to pipelines using trenchless technology are complete. Works including clearing of vegetation from footpaths, repairs to the balance of existing drainage pipelines by excavating trenches, installation of new pipelines and headwalls to those pipelines where they enter ditches, re-forming roadside ditches and breaking out existing kerb lines to replace them with an integral kerbing and drainage system are ongoing and will continue for the next few weeks.

We are also currently planning to carry out **milling, resurfacing and application of temporary and permanent road markings to the southbound lane of the A5, from a point approximately 45 metres south of the access to Bell Plantation to a point approximately 100 metres north of Jack's Hill Café, on the nights of Wednesday 25th and Thursday 26th March 2020.**

During these particular works, **escorted access will be maintained along the northbound lane for Phase 1 escorted access permit holders and to Jack's Hill Café. Works across the access to Bell Plantation will not start until after 9pm.**

Please note that **overnight works in Phases 1 and 2 will run concurrently for the next few weeks but, access across the A5 at the Banbury Lane / Butchers's Lane crossroads in Foster's Booth will be maintained whenever possible***. Please take care when using the crossroads and follow any instructions given by the Traffic Marshals.

All overnight works are carried out between 8pm and 6am Mondays to Fridays inclusive.

As you are no doubt aware, we successfully completed the installation of a new surface water drain across the full width of the A5 in Phase 1, approximately 250 metres south of the Banbury Lane / Butchers's Lane crossroads in Foster's Booth, between 8pm Friday 21st February and 11pm Sunday 23rd February 2020.

We are now planning to carry out **milling, resurfacing and installation of temporary and permanent road markings to the northbound lane of the A5, from a point north of the Duncote turn to a point north of the Astcote turn, between 8pm Friday 27th and 6am Monday 30th March 2020.**

From 8am until 11pm on Saturday 28th March 2020, we shall also be carrying out saw cutting of the footpaths and carriageway and breaking out of existing kerb lines at the Banbury Lane / Butcher's Lane crossroads in Foster's Booth, for the installation of an integral kerbing and drainage system.

***Please note that, due to the health and safety risks to our workforce and the travelling public created by the large number of heavy vehicle and plant movements during resurfacing operations and the restriction to carriageway widths caused by the kerbing works, the crossroads at Foster's Booth will be closed to all but escorted access permit holders over that weekend.**

We are currently planning to carry out **milling, resurfacing and installation of temporary and permanent road markings to the southbound lane of the A5, from a point north of the Duncote turn to a point north of the Astcote turn, between 8pm Friday 3rd and 6am Monday 6th April 2020.** We hope to maintain access across the A5 at the Banbury Lane / Butcher's Lane crossroads over that weekend.

Please note that no works will be carried out on the A5 between Tove roundabout (A43) and Weedon Bec from 6am Thursday 9th April until 8pm Monday 20th April 2020. This is to accommodate both the Easter Holiday period and works on the M1 motorway which will require the A5 as a possible diversion route.

To maintain a safe environment for our workforce and road users, the A5 will be closed to through traffic between the Towcester Roundabout (A43) and Weedon crossroads during our working hours.

All carriageways will remain open, as usual, when we are not working and winter maintenance work, i.e. gritting of the road, will be carried out as normal.

Please also note that all our planned road works may be subject to change due to weather conditions, unforeseen circumstances or restrictions placed on us as a result of the Coronavirus emergency.

I apologise for any disruption our works may cause. Please plan ahead and allow extra time for your journey.

For further information, please contact:

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