

## **A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon Improvement Scheme September to October 2018**

**Sections 1 and 2 - Alconbury to the East Coast Main Line**  
**Section 3 - East Coast Main Line to Swavesey**  
**Sections 4 and 5 - Swavesey to Milton**  
**Section 6 – Huntingdon**

### **A word of caution we ask you to share**

As mentioned in our last update, we are now surfacing new sections of the road, so please treat with caution any offers for the sale of excess materials claimed to be from the A14. No one associated with the project will be selling surfacing materials to the public or local businesses. Please pass this message on to as many people as possible.

### **Traffic Management:**

**Sections 1 and 2:** Narrow lanes and a 40-mph speed limit remain in force on the A1 and both north and southbound carriageways will be closed for two weeks in September. This is to allow for the installation of the technology required to display accurate information on the new gantries. Our teams must work very close to and over the new carriageway which can only be achieved safely with a full closure.

**Section 3:** There will be a weekend closure of the A1198 between Papworth Everard and Godmanchester (at the end of September to allow for work drainage, street lighting and bridge works) at the junction with the new A14, to be completed. The road will be closed from 08:00 on Saturday 29 September until 05:00 on Monday 1 October. The diversion route (south to north) will use the B1040 through Hilton and the A14 to Godmanchester. Access to farms and businesses around Lattenbury Hill will be maintained on the A1198 from the south. Wood Green Animal Shelter will be accessible from the north.

Hilton local access road will be moved onto the new Hilton Road bridge on the weekend of 22 – 23 September.

**Sections 4 & 5:** Closures of the A14 will be needed in September to allow us to work safely on the bridges at Swavesey and Bar Hill. The A14 at Bar Hill will be closed to through traffic from 21:00 on Friday 14 September until 06:00 on Monday 17 September. Access at Bar Hill will be for local traffic only.

The week-day night closures of the A14 between the Girton Interchange and Milton will end shortly as the works move into phase 2. Limited night works are anticipated from September to the end of this year.

**You can contact us on our dedicated A14 Public Helpline 0800 270 0114**  
**Scheme information is also available at our website**  
**[www.highwaysengland.co.uk/A14C2H](http://www.highwaysengland.co.uk/A14C2H) and you can also follow us at:**



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### Construction Activities:

**Section 1:** Work on the southbound A1 is nearly complete, with top soil now in place and replacement farmers' tracks almost ready for use. On the northbound section, a temporary arrangement is in place at Wooley Road.

This will eventually be permanently closed, when the replacement local access road linking Wooley Road to the new Ellington / Brampton Hut junction is complete.

**Section 2:** Close to the Brampton site office, the concrete structures supporting the Buckden Road bridge are almost complete. This bridge will take the new A14 over the local road. From the Buckden Road roundabout, you can now begin to see how all the pieces fit together, including new and improved pedestrian and cycle routes.

Our prefabrication yard, which produces the concrete components for all the new structures, has to date manufactured nearly 1600 separate beams and parapets. The huge steel beams which form the viaduct crossing the lakes, the River Great Ouse and the East Coast Mainline are now in place. Earth works have progressed quickly during the dry summer, enabling us to join the component parts of this impressive structure.



The bodies of water, visible from Brampton Road Bridge over the realigned A1 are essential to ensure that the highway drainage is separate from the existing land drainage systems.

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### **Section 3:**

The dry summer has allowed us to press on with earthworks at a rate of more than 85,000 cubic metres a week. This is equivalent to the weight of 149,600 average sized cars. We have 50 dump trucks, 18 bulk excavators, 17 bull dozers and 20 compaction rollers working in the section.

We have completed 41% of the main line drainage, with 28 people working 12 hours a day on this activity. The drainage system takes carriageway water into ponds, allowing it to be released in a controlled way into the water courses. More than half our culverts are complete, mainly taking existing ditches and streams under the new carriageway.

We have started the foundation layers for the carriageways, laying 18,000 tonnes out of a total of 153,000 of concrete bound granular material. Laying of asphalt will start in early September.

Hilton Road new bridge will open at the end of September and the B1043 Offord Road will open at the end of November.

### **Sections 4 and 5:**

Work on the new bridge at Swavesey continues. Overnight closures of the road have allowed us to undertake work on the bridge deck. The layout of the new junction and the associated roundabouts is now much more obvious. We anticipate that this bridge will be open to live traffic this autumn. We will then undertake the demolition of the old Swavesey bridge.

Construction of the side abutments (supports) for the new bridges at Bar Hill is progressing well and the steel girders which will span the A14 and form the bridge for the new junction can be seen resting beside the eastbound carriageway. We will be lifting these beams into place in September, when there will be a Friday night to Monday morning closure of the A14 (between 14 and 17 Sep - see TM section above for more detail).

The temporary bailey bridge near the Dry Drayton turn-off was removed in August during an overnight closure. Work on the new local access road that will run from Oakington Road to Huntingdon Road is progressing well. It is anticipated that traffic will be using this road this autumn. Work has also commenced on constructing a new access road from this road into Cambridge Crematorium.

The lengthy period of night work along the Cambridge Northern Bypass will end soon. During these works we have removed the central safety barrier and resurfaced the road, allowing traffic to move across as we start to widen this section of the A14. During phase 2, most of the work will be carried out during the day.

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### Section 6 Huntingdon Works:

Early preparatory work in this section of the scheme will start later this year, but the removal of the viaduct cannot begin until we have A14 traffic on the new road. The recent information we have shared about our work in Huntingdon can be found via this link:

[A14-Cambridge to Huntingdon- Preview of plans for Huntingdon](#)

### Ecology:

Looking after wildlife along the A14 is an essential part of the project and we strive to find ways to improve the environment. One example of this can be seen in section 3.

Old West Brook, an artificially straight and biodiversity-poor watercourse parallel to Potton Road (B1040), has been realigned to create a more natural watercourse. It now has gravel beds and meanders of deep and shallow water with varying flow velocities. This provides a much wider range of wildlife habitats, while retaining the capacity to cope with a potential 1/100-year flooding event which must be incorporated in the scheme's design.

Nearby, work has continued throughout the summer to establish an ecological haven in a newly-cut section of Covell's Drain. This involved nurturing and watering new turf and vegetation through the hot, dry summer before it replaces a section of drain that must be filled in. This new stretch of Covell's Drain, pictured below, mimics the rich biodiversity of a natural watercourse, encouraging wildlife to move in as soon as it is connected.



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## **A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon Improvement Scheme September to October 2018**

### **Community Engagement**

The A14 Mobile Visitor Centre will be at the following events/venues:

Bar Hill Tesco – 3 & 6 September 2018

Little Paxton Village Groups – 15 September 2018

Milton Country Park Autumn Festival- 23 September 2018

Prickwillow Ploughing Festival – 06 October 2018

If you'd like to book the MVC to visit your village or town, please email:

[A14CambridgeHuntingdon@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:A14CambridgeHuntingdon@highwaysengland.co.uk)

### **Volunteering:**

The A14 team is always on the lookout for local volunteering opportunities. If you or your parishioners have any community projects where we could provide some people power to help, please call our helpline on 0800 270 0114 or email [Samantha.kedie@thea14.com](mailto:Samantha.kedie@thea14.com).

### **A14 Charity Welly Walk**

All 500 tickets for our charity **'Welly Walk' on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2018**, raising money for Cancer Research UK, have been snapped up. We hope you secured tickets to this unique event.

The walk will follow the new A14 between A1198, Ermine Street and Swavesey Junction and will be a unique opportunity for members of the public to explore 10 kilometres (just over 6 miles) of what will eventually be the new road carrying traffic between Cambridge and Huntingdon.

We'll report on the day and share pictures in the next newsletter. Thank you to everyone who has donated to our fundraising page.

<https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/a14c2h-wellywalk-giving-page>



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