

FRIENDS OF BODDINGTON

Report to the Parish Council - 2/08/2017

Following the report to the Parish Council on July 5 2017, the Friends of Boddington meeting on July 20 and subsequent meetings, I am pleased to report the following information.

As part of the collation of information process, FOB personally invited every household in Lower Boddington to a BBQ at The Well House on Friday 7 July. The event achieved our aims as social get together to:

- Discuss HS2 and identify concerns,
- Display current plans of HS2,
- Explain procedures to monitor structural damage
- Put forward ideas and options for an HS2 Community Environment Fund application.
- Display results of the preferred projects from answers collated from the questionnaire.

Tree screening of HS2	29%
Countryside walk	23%
Play Area LB/meeting place	18%
Sports facilities Cowper Field	15%
Minibus	13%
Other	2%

The breakdown of the concerns is being processed and will be the result finalised shortly.

Regarding CEF applications and following recent correspondence, I confirm that CEF funds are available for the duration of construction and that there is no rush for us to get a bid in ASAP.

On July 17, the winners of £6.6bn worth of major construction contracts for HS2 Phase One were confirmed by the Government. Transport secretary Chris Grayling confirmed the deals which will see the route reach Birmingham by 2026.

The winning contractors for Phase One in the **Area Central** are:

- Chiltern Tunnels and Colne Valley Viaduct – Align JV (Bouygues Travaux Publics, VolkerFitzpatrick, Sir Robert McAlpine)
- North Portal Chiltern Tunnels to Brackley – CEK JV (Carillion Construction Ltd, Eiffage Genie Civil SA, Kier Infrastructure and Overseas Ltd)
- Brackley to South Portal of Long Itchington Wood Green Tunnel – CEK JV (Carillion Construction Ltd, Eiffage Genie Civil SA, Kier Infrastructure and Overseas Ltd)

Preparatory works are already underway, with main construction work starting in 2018/19 following a period of detailed design work.

- Stage One will be a 16-month period to develop a design, a programme and a Target Cost for the construction of the works.

- Stage Two is the construction of the main works and this is expected to take between four and five years to complete.

At the FOB meeting July 20th 2017, the main agenda issues included:

- Jonathan Perks associate partner of Fisher Germain is attending the FOB on 17 August
- Car parking issues and traffic calming on the Banbury Road - Millers Close and outside The Carpenters Arms. Problems could escalate with HS2 construction traffic. FOB propose that Boddington PC write to SNC highlighting the concerns.
- Purchase of land, if any available, does not qualify for CEF
- A major CEF application is the preferred choice
- Tree screening – grants for tree planting are available from The Forrest Trust. Availability of land is the main concern. Discussions with HS2 to be arranged as a priority,
- Proposed changes to existing footpaths
- A list of questions and concerns collated for presentation to HS2 requiring answers
- HS2 Context report
- HS2 Contractor appointment
- HS2 Northants Liaison Group meeting June 29
- Allocation of responsibilities
- Date of next HS2 Northants Liaison meeting 8 September

On 24 July, I had a meeting in Towcester with Lydia Smith, HS2, to present and discuss the concerns of FOB. Lydia will attend the next FOB meeting with the answers to the concerns and issues.

Date of the next FOB meetings – Thursday August 17th.

FOB continues to deliver the best outcome for the residents of the Boddingtons.

Philip Freer, Chairman, Friends of Boddington