



FRIENDS OF BODDINGTON MONTHLY REPORT TO THE PARISH COUNCIL JULY 3rd. 2019

Following the report to the Parish Council on June 5th 2019, the FoB monthly meeting held on June 20th. and subsequent meetings, I am pleased to report the following information.

FOB meeting was held on June 20th.

HS2 Update and Engagement – Nisha Meyer:

Nisha Meyer reported that the Community Event at Chipping Warden on June 11th at which Nick Finch had made a presentation on the archaeology discovered, had been well received..

HS2 is wishing to launch the 2nd phase of the Growing Spaces projects. HS2 Growing Spaces is a community engagement project to build vegetable/planting in blighted villages. Please note that Boddington Primary School was one of the first schools to take part in the first phase of the scheme. Nisha asked if Boddington Parish would like a planter at the Village Hall at no cost to the parish. FoB suggested that as Lower Boddington is directly affected by the impact of HS2, if the scheme is accepted, the planter would be best located in Lower Boddington. The problem of its maintenance was raised, and it was suggested that maybe the Gardening Club might be interested. Since the meeting, contact the Gardening Club has been contacted to see whether this might be a possibility as HS2 needs a decision by June 28th.

EK Update: Chris James

Chris James reported that the first load movement of a heavy construction vehicle successfully took place Friday 14th. June and passed via the Banbury Road, Lower Boddington without incident.

FoB stated the concerns regarding the Millennium Way footpath in Lower Boddington. The issues are:

1. During the construction period as the Millennium Way will have to be closed for a minimum of 18 months as there will be no access over the trace until construction work is completed, and:

2. After construction as the planned new diverted route is onto the Claydon Road where there is no planned pavement for pedestrians. As stated on numerous occasions, the Claydon Road has a daily footfall of over 50.

A meeting is being scheduled with Ian Morris to discuss the issues before further action is taken.

Chris James agreed to discuss FoB issues with NCC Highways regarding the permanent solution for this footpath, but it was acknowledged that NCC will no longer exist in its current form by then.

The heave works will be start once all the required earth moving equipment has been delivered on site. Site drainage is a key factor and work on this will started first.

The local HS2 traffic movement plan is currently a technical document. Once established, the plan will be simplified so that it can be shared. HS2 liaison's links with Highways England should be involved and they are looking at community feedback and how best to capture that through the various teams.

Fusion update: Nicky Haigh

Nicky Haigh reported that the Buckingham Group Contracting were appointed on June 17th. to replace Dawnus and deliver the Enabling Works in Northamptonshire. There will be a period of mobilisation before work restarts. Some of the Dawnus personnel have been employed by Buckingham, so hopefully some continuity will hopefully be achieved. Work should recommence in about 4 weeks. However, the delay has meant that some of the Highways approvals have elapsed so new applications are needed. Arrangements for traffic management when the new road meets the old road have yet to be finalised, but the bypass will probably not be finished until the new year. Nicky provided photographic proof that some of the fences have been moved to improve visibility and Highways have cut the grass.

Nicky Haigh reported that she had spent an hour with Kate Johnson of the Forest School in UB/CCF and that she is hoping to apply for funding on a specific project if required.

The Date of next meeting of the next FoB meeting July 18th.

The date of the next HS2 Liaison Group Meeting is July 19th. 2019 (postponed from 7th. June). Cllr Jason Smithers is now the Cabinet member for highways in place of Ian Morris.

Cllr Jason Smithers will have overall responsibility for HS2 matters, however, to ensure consistency, Cllr Morris has agreed to continue to Chair the HS2 Liaison Group meetings.

FOB continues to work for the wellbeing of every resident in the Boddington parish.

Philip Freer

Chairman, Friends of Boddington