

COMMON BARN WIND FARM

PROJECT UPDATE

As you'll appreciate the last month has presented some challenging weather conditions for all of us. Work at the wind farm has focussed on the archaeological investigations, which have been delayed with the weather. We now hope to complete the archaeological works within the next week or so and will provide a summary of findings in our next update. We have also now completed the works associated with inspection, wrapping and protection of the CLH oil pipeline that crosses the wind farm access track some 160 metres west of the edge of the A1 carriageway. The pipeline is relatively deep, just over 2 metres below ground level, at the point where the wind farm access crosses it. Irrespective we were required to obtain a crossing consent, excavate onto the pipeline, inspect the line and re-wrap before constructing a concrete protection slab (poured on Tuesday 20th March) to span the pipeline to ensure that loads imparted from wind farm construction traffic do not impart loads onto the pipeline. All works were supervised by CLH and undertaken by a CLH approved subcontractor. We plan to commence the main wind farm access track construction works shortly after the Easter break.



Oil pipe re-wrapping



Wind farm access bell-mouth looking east from edge of A1 northbound

TRAINEE POSITIONS

Per our last update we are pleased to open up two trainee positions for applications from local people who may be interested in seeking a career within the civil engineering industry. Refer the project website, February 2018 update, for further details.

COMMUNITY FUND

The window for applications to the community fund is to open May-August with award announcements for the first to be made within a month of the wind farm becoming operational (expected autumn 2018). Refer the project website, January 2018 update, for further details.

UPDATED TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

Following feedback from the parish council we have improved the signage that warns wind farm HGV traffic not to enter Southoe village. We also agreed with the council to vacate our initial temporary compound from the grain store area off Bell Lane. The compound has been relocated to the bell-mouth area and the grain store area has been remediated. More recently we have agreed with Highways England, following consultation with Cambridgeshire Police, that given that the bell-mouth is now formed we are able to implement a revised temporary traffic management scheme. The revised scheme no longer requires a lane closure on the A1 to access the bell-mouth. The revised scheme will retain the 40 MPH temporary speed limit and provides for construction access warning signage in the lead up to the bell-mouth. The revised scheme avoids the requirement to close Bell Lane and hence we no longer require the temporary diversion. We first implemented the scheme on Tuesday 20th March and will continue to monitor the situation in conjunction with Highways England. We plan to remove the prior traffic management scheme equipment (signs, cones etc) from the verge of the A1 this coming weekend. In advance of wind turbine deliveries we will finalise a plan with Highways England and Cambridgeshire Police and will communicate this once finalised. We expect turbines to be delivered at night time.