



# Congleton Link Road

Construction Phase Newsletter

Issue no.6

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## Keeping you up-to-date with our work on the Congleton Link Road project.

### Site Update

- The deck for the River Dane Bridge has been completed.
- On the 6<sup>th</sup> February, 9 pre cast concrete bridge beams were delivered and lifted into place on the Chelford Road structure. Construction of the bridge deck is nearing completion following the installation of steel reinforcement bars and casting the deck. The process of cropping piles and installing the wingwalls is currently being undertaken.
- 316m of sheet piles will be installed to manage water due to the high water table which will allow the Chelford Road structure and mainline to be completed.
- Works to realign the existing Chelford Road on to the new bridge have commenced with the stone wall been taken down and stored ready to be rebuilt in its new location. Traffic is due to be switched on to the bridge in the coming months.
- The concrete culvert for the new underpass on Manchester Road is in the process of being installed.
- Road foundation works are underway on the mainline from Sandbach Road to Holmes Chapel Road, as well Macclesfield Road with kerbs being installed in the coming weeks.
- The closure of Giantswood Lane to motorists and pedestrians commenced on the 21<sup>st</sup> February to allow the realignment of the existing carriageway onto the new bridge, surfacing works and construction of the east abutment been completed prior to the road re-opening. The Project Team have recently erected the 1.8m high parapet fencing along the length of the bridge deck with the aim to provide protection for equestrian users.

### Congleton High School Site Visit

As part of the Project Teams continuing support for schools within the Congleton area, students with an interest in Civil Engineering from Congleton High School were recently invited to visit the project.

The students arrived at the GRAHAM site office on Viking Way on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February and underwent a site induction by the Projects Health and Safety Advisor before Phil Owen, Project Manager, gave a talk on the scheme and the different job roles involved in the construction industry to deliver a scheme like the Congleton Link Road. The students were then given a tour of the site including the impressive new River Dane Bridge.



Students visited the Project site office on Viking Way before being given a tour of the Congleton Link Road site.

Following the success of the visit, Patsy Murphy, Social Impact Business Partner, attended the school's careers event along with two engineers who were on hand to talk to students and answer questions regarding career opportunities in the construction industry. They also gave an overview of the GRAHAM Academy which provides world class training and development programmes and is committed to developing the next generation of industry professionals.

## Somerford Parish Council Engagement

The construction of the Congleton Link Road has coincided with the largest project ever undertaken by Somerford Parish Council, the establishment of a community nature reserve on approximately 10 acres of land bequeathed to the RSPB by local resident Lavinia Rhead. The land on Black Firs Lane was subsequently passed to the Parish Council to create the Rheads Meadow nature reserve in memory of Mrs Rhead, who's wish it was that the land should be used to benefit wildlife and not be developed.

The Parish Council have been working with representatives of the RSPB as well as local landscape designer and RHS Gold Award Winner, Alexandra Froggatt who has designed the nature reserve, which when completed will be enjoyed by the local community for years to come.

Since GRAHAM arrived on site in January last year the Project Team have built strong relationships with Somerford Parish Council, who approached the Project Team in January this year to ask for support. Dan Cawthra, Stakeholder and Communications Officer and Alastair Lewis, Contracts Manager, organised a meeting with Geoff Bell, Chairman and Julie Mason, Clerk for Somerford Parish Council and agreed to initially install approximately 250 metres of stock proof fencing and gate along the access track boundary of the land.

Geoff Bell, Chairman for Somerford Parish Council said: "We were pleased to learn that GRAHAM was keen to become involved with the Rheads Meadow project and are very grateful for initially installing around 250 metres of stock-proof fencing on the reserve. This work was completed very soon after the land came into the ownership of the parish council and enabled us to make substantial progress with the site."

"The Somerford Parish Council first made contact with Congleton Link Road Principal Contractors, GRAHAM, on the 21<sup>st</sup> January 2019 when they, at our invitation, attended a meeting of the parish council to discuss the work which had commenced on the construction of the new road in the parish."

"It was apparent to the parish council from the outset that residents would have a daily interaction with the works and considerable disruption to their daily lives and it was vital, therefore, that the parish council should establish good relations and a strong line of communication with GRAHAM and its staff. We were pleased to be able to set up a regular monthly meeting with their Stakeholder & Communications Officer for the project, Dan Cawthra and these meetings have proved to be most useful for both sides, principally looking to anticipate possible issues before they arise and also discussing concerns raised by parishioners. These meetings are planned to continue until the road is completed."

"Although it is inevitable that the construction of a road through the open countryside of a small parish such as Somerford is always going to be a disruption for the residents, by their consideration, willingness to communicate and adapt, and especially their friendly approach, GRAHAM have enabled the disruption to be minimised to an acceptable level. We are very grateful for this valuable assistance and look forward to working further with GRAHAM whilst they remain in the area completing the Congleton Link Road project."

Alastair Lewis Contracts Manager said: "We understand that the Somerford parish has many local residents impacted by the scheme. It is therefore great to hear that our communication strategy and work in the local community is not going unnoticed."

"It is a credit to the Project Team and further demonstrates GRAHAM's ongoing commitment to leave a lasting legacy in the community's we work in."

## OUR COMMITMENTS

- Work with our neighbours to reduce the impact our work has on local business and the community
- Ensure the traffic management system is in place and maintain a safe working environment at all times
- Monitor noise, vibration and dust to ensure they are kept within the permitted levels
- Support the local community through employment, buying from local suppliers and proactive stakeholder engagement

## CONSIDERATE CONSTRUCTORS SCHEME

This site is registered under the Considerate Constructors Scheme (CCS) and as Partners, GRAHAM is committed to improving the image of the construction industry by striving to promote and achieve best practice at all our sites under the following code:

- Enhancing the **Appearance**
- Respecting the **Community**
- Protecting the **Environment**
- Securing everyone's **Safety**
- Caring for the **Workforce**



## KEEP UP TO DATE

Keep up to date with the latest news on Congleton Link Road at:



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