

A428 Improvements - Caxton Common to Hardwick

Final Newsletter May 2007

Introduction

Welcome to our third and final Newsletter which brings the welcome news that the A428 Caxton Common to Hardwick Improvement Scheme will be completed well ahead of schedule in late Spring rather than in the Autumn as originally programmed.

A questionnaire was sent out with the last Newsletter and the results showed that the Newsletters were considered to be informative and useful. The inset plan was considered particularly helpful and clarified exactly where the new road lay in relation with the existing A428. We hope that this Newsletter will also help to keep you up to date with what is happening on this scheme and if there is anything that we can help with, you will find the contact details on the last page.

The good progress has been due to a variety of factors including some favourable weather, and a high degree of professionalism and top safety standards set by the contractors. We have endeavoured to minimize disruption to road users and this has been reflected in the very few complaints that we have received to date.

Landscaping and tree planting

As well as sympathetic landscaping and planting along the entire route, we have also re-introduced Black Poplars. Over 130,000 trees and shrubs will eventually be planted alongside the new dual-carriageway helping it to blend into the surrounding countryside and improve the local ecology.

Progress

The western section of dual carriageway between the Caxton Gibbet roundabout and Cambourne junction was opened before Christmas which was some ten months earlier than programmed.

A dedicated access track has been built for the three properties just east of the Chinese restaurant.

The A428 traffic has now been switched onto the new dual carriageway between Hardwick junction and the

existing dual carriageway.

The new Childerley overbridge is now being used by the A428 traffic in both directions while the dual carriageway is being completed beneath it. There is also a new access off the Childerley embankment to Childerley farm.

Construction Programme

Project on time

Activity	2005				2006								2007															
	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O
Offices / Fencing	■	■	■	■	■	■																						
Environmental																												
Structures																												
Earthworks																												
Pavement Works																												
Finishing Works																												

Footbridge

A new footbridge has been constructed north of Hardwick which will now offers a safe access to pedestrians wishing to use the footpath to Dry Drayton. The footpath has been diverted to follow the line of the Callow Brook all the way to the bridge.

Safety

The scheme has had an exceptional safety record having had no reportable accidents during the whole 21 months of the work to date. This record has been helped by well thought out method statements and risk assessments for each new piece of work, regular safety campaigns, safety incentives and the close monitoring of the work.

Awards

The scheme has been given a couple of awards for its good performance during the construction of the new dual carriageway. These include a Silver award from the Considerate Constructors Scheme - National Awards 2007 and an Edmund Nuttall award for Major Schemes. It has also been nominated as one of six major schemes for the Highways Agency Zero Accidents Award.



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From Caxton Gibbet towards Camboyrne



Hardwick Bridge towards Cambridge



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(Calls from BT landlines to 0870 numbers will cost no more than 8p per minute; mobile calls usually cost more)

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