



Minutes of the meeting held on 18 April 2024 at The Well House, Lower Boddington.

Members present: Philip Freer (PF), Ivan Bannister (IB), Stephen Allonby-Briggs (SAB), Rowan Adams (RW), Anne Wadland (AW), Nicola Thomas (NT)

In attendance: Councillor Alison Eastwood (AE) West Northamptonshire Council, Chris James (CJ) EKFB, Lesley Johnson (LJ) Clerk to Boddington Parish Council

1. Apologies

Malcolm Stewart, James Copeman

2. Welcome

PF welcomed Chris James, EKFB, Cllr Alison Eastwood, WNC and Lesley Johnson, Clerk to Boddington Parish Council, to the meeting. LJ will attend FoB meetings held every 2 months to record and distribute the minutes as a concise record for reference.

3. PF Update since the last FoB meeting held on 29 February 2024

3a - PF met with Cllr Alison Eastwood on Friday 22 March 2024. AE thanked PF for his continuing efforts with FoB and stressed the importance of continuity in holding EKFB and HS2 to account moving forward.

3b - PF met with Gary Pettit, HS2 Marshall for WNC to discuss Banbury Road/Spella's Barn and walk the area.

4. Minutes of the FoB meeting held on 29 February 2024

No minutes to accept.

5. Report on the APM held on Wednesday 3 April 2024

PF delivered the FoB report and the EKFB report to the annual parish meeting, answered all questions and received the following action points raised by parishioners at the APM:

5a - Request for FoB to receive notifications from EKFB in advance of road closures and diversions on the A423 around Southam and Chipping Warden to Southam updates.

ACTION: CJ agreed to forward notifications in advance where possible on upcoming road closures and diversions in the wider area.

5b - Request to confirm the road width of the approach roads to the Wormleighton Bridge and the width of the road on the bridge.

ACTION: CJ confirmed during his presentation the road width on the bridge and the approach roads is the standard design width of 6 meters.

6. Report on the PC meeting held on Wednesday 10 April 2024

PF delivered the FOB report to the PC meeting.

7. EKFB update

PF welcomed back Chris James, EKFB who has prepared a presentation for the meeting. CJ will be the EKFB contact until a replacement for Simon Davis is appointed to work together with FoB and address any challenges. CJ met last Friday with Andrea Leadsom and Chris Heaton-Harris and gave an overview.

- Wormleighton Overbridge and road closures: Further works necessary to increase the height of the parapets and extend to include the approach road due to the curved layout. The overbridge will open for a short time with traffic light control, before it is closed again for work to continue, dates to be confirmed.
- Claydon Road Overbridge: There is no issue with the height of the parapets
- Highfurlong Viaduct: progressing as planned
- Landscaping: Schedule 17 scale was 1 to 2k and is now 1 to 1k. EKFB are appointing contractors to commence planting this Autumn/Winter and CJ will request they attend FoB meeting when appointed. AE will find out WNC contact.

CJ addressed the 2 main issues:

- 1) **Wormleighton Bridge** - Warwickshire Council consent is required regarding compliance to build a temporary road joining Stoneton Lane while the Wormleighton Bridge is closed. The plan is to open the bridge in the summer. Once Warwickshire Council agree the bridge will be closed for further work which may extend to the end of the year and reopen this time next year.
- 2) **The parapet issue** – This was a common design element and was initially amended but the design amendments were only received late last summer. HS2 advised not to halt construction but that at a later date the first few bridges will require the added changes to the parapets. Claydon Overbridge does not require the changes. Wormleighton Overbridge is approached on a bend so amendments will now include parapets on the bridge and on the approaches. Initially the approaches were to include a metal barrier but now parapets will be added to the approaches and the delay is a result of the need to build stronger foundations for the parapets which will be over 2 metres high.

CJ further advised the track laying contractor will be appointed early next year and HS2 and Highways are in discussion regarding the road joining Upper and Lower Boddington.

8. Date of the next FoB meeting

The next FoB meeting will be held on Monday 8 July 2024 at 7.30pm.

9. AOB

Nothing further to discuss.

PF closed the meeting at 9.00pm.