

E-news summer 2 2017

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Email the parish clerk on: christinaw06@btinternet.com

Broughton E-news

This is the 4th edition of the **e-news**, however printed copies are available throughout the village. The content of this e-news reflects the comments received. If you want it delivered to your mail box please send your email address marked e-news to the parish Clerk.

Bypass walk through and update

Parish Cllrs Hastings & Callaghan and Cllr Iddon (LCC Cabinet members for Highways) met with Marcus Hudson (LCC Planning Manager, Planning & Environmental Service), Graeme Leathard (LCC's on site engineer) & Matt Mosley (Hochief) at the Hochief site office and had the opportunity on the 19th July to walk along the bypass. To see the current progress and to question staff about what has yet to be completed.

Fortunately there were no photographers present as the yellow trousers, coats, hard hats, protective glasses and gloves finished off with steel toed shoes are not the most glamorous of outfit!

Starting at the north end of the bypass we walked through seeing the underpass for the Helms farm cows to cross under the Bypass. It is completed and the cows have tried it!

The section to Whittingham Lane just need the top layer of road surface to be put in place.

This area, as does most of the bypass has very broad verges, up to 30 foot in places. These areas and the roundabouts are to be landscaped over the next few weeks and in some areas permanent barriers to prevent newts straying onto the road are to be out in place.

To the north of this section is a large pond and several other areas of



Garstang Road c 1935

So why the delays until January 2018?

The personally perspective of myself and Cllr Callaghan is that there appears to be 2-3 months' work left, the main area of work to get the road by Blundell Brook Bridge up to the level of the rest of the road.

Cllr ID don will be keeping us up to date with progress and completion dates.



Toll Bar Cottage C 1910



habitat for the various reptiles and other wildlife displaced by the bypass.

All the verges and the roundabouts will be maintained by the horticulture team of Hochief for 5 years then by LCC for at least 20 years.

Approaching the roundabout on Whittingham one of the footpaths crosses the road and this is being reinstated. Just to the north of the roundabout there will be a pelican crossing for the cyclists and pedestrians coming along Whittingham Lane. The access roads for the house either side of the junction are now completed and along the road most of the street lighting is in place. The street lighting is not all along the route only at the roundabouts and junctions to reduce light pollution in the open countryside areas.

Crossing across to continue along the road this section is in the same states as the previous section requiring in a top layer of tarmac.

However as we progressed down to the Blundel Brook Bridge the next section is not up to road level yet.

To the east a large attenuation pond is currently being landscaped and will significantly reduce the pressure on and flooding of the Blundel Brook in heavy rain.

It is a shame that most people using the bypass will not see the engineering and brickwork so the bridge which are a very impressive. This is one area where significant changes in the geology were experienced as the initial surveys were during a period of dry summers....recently we have had more rain and as a result the geology has changed significantly that required more support for the bridge. However the resulting bridge will be able to withstand significant increased water flow.

The footpath in this area has been redirected through the area to the south of the brook, crosses over and passes the bottom of the school field with its new fencing then rises up over the back of the pond and then crosses the road to the north of the attenuation pond to join with its original route. This requires some work and new stiles.

Back onto the bypass the views down to the Church farm are clear, unlike many areas further back which are obscured by the fencing in place to reduce noise. These fences are designed for the purpose and at points are the boundaries of the road verges and at other points part way across separating roads like the area to the south of the brook by the church and an area to the north of the Whittingham roundabout. The road now dips down to the roundabout where some work is still needed on the Durton lane (defend section) has yet to be completed.

The church/school car park is completed with the grassed area with the picnic bench about to be completed. The area behind the fence and up to the brook will have over 90 trees planted.

We then progressed down to the junction at the motorway and where there is significant amount of work being completed over the next few weeks with the road closures overnight.

The current bottleneck for south travelling traffic with the single file through using the future bus lane will be relieved slightly by the work to be completed over the next week as it will allow three lanes once through the chicane.

Our thanks go to Hochief and LCC for arranging this very interesting and informative visit