New River Bridge Improvement Scheme
Essex Road, Hoddesdon

The Scheme
Hertfordshire County Council is progressing with plans to build a new access road to replace the existing Essex Road (between A1170 Dinant Link Road roundabout and Geddings Road).

Once complete, the New River Bridge will improve access and safety for vehicles, cyclists and pedestrians coming in and out of Hoddesdon Business Park.

The Business Park is a very important income generator in Hertfordshire and plays a significant economic role in the wider region. It accounts for up to 6,000 jobs in Broxbourne.

Coronavirus Update
As construction races on, working within the COVID-19 safety guidance has become the new normal for all of our workers. The safety of all of our staff remains the number one priority and we are as committed as ever to working under government guidelines and practicing social distancing.

Construction Timeline
• Enabling works – September 2019 - January 2020
• Start of Construction – January 2020
• Overnight traffic lights, Essex Road – May-July 2020
• Essex Road closed – July 2020 & Feb 2021
• Completion – Spring 2021
Abut time!

June was a very productive month on site. Both the western and eastern bridge abutments have now been completed! You can now start to visualise how the bridge will look. As part of this process, we’ve regraded the slope between the abutments and the New River.

Sheet Piling Completed

The sheet piling has been completed for the retaining wall that supports the Thames Water car park. Sheet piles are sections of metal sheet materials driven into the ground and will help protect the banks of the New River.

Roadworks Progress

Since 18th May, two-way overnight traffic lights have been installed on Essex Road to facilitate essential works. These have involved resurfacing the footways, and roads, repairing drains, and renewing streetlights.

Gas diversion works completed

The gas main has finally been diverted and backfilled. This has opened up more of the site for progress.

#Didyouknow

A bridge abutment is a structure which connects the deck of a bridge to the ground, at the ends of a bridge span, helping support its weight both horizontally and vertically.

Fan-gas-tic work as the main is diverted
Hosting our own Webinar

It has been a busy month with our community involvement as we find ways to continue to support the community despite the current restrictions.

Run by Hertfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), Osborne participated in a live 'webinar' where they shared their knowledge and advice regarding a career in engineering with 50 school leavers from Hertfordshire.

The session was recorded, feel free to check out this link!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t9Rer_HUwIM

Another webinar on careers in construction was held with Will Stubbs, an Osborne apprentice. Here is the link.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dFDGTBu4e6w

Budding artists

We’ve received wonderful artwork from our local primary school, which will soon be displayed on the site boundary – thank you to the children of St Catherine’s C of E Primary School! They help promote safety, what our scheme is all about.

Work Experience

Osborne are continuing their fantastic engagement with the local community and are in the process of arranging work experience for local school leavers. This will give them an invaluable insight into a career in civil engineering.

Looking ahead

We are always thinking of new ways to give back to the local community. At the moment we are looking into initiatives that could benefit local allotment owners. We have a few other ideas up our sleeves so as ever stay tuned for next month’s edition.
Roadworks

Following the overnight two way traffic lights, which finish on 3rd July, we are planning to close Essex Road between the A1170 Dinant Link Road roundabout and Pindar Road (West) to undertake resurfacing works to the road.

The road closures dates are:

- Tuesday 7 July – Night-time closure from 10pm to 6am *
- Wednesday 8 July – Night-time closure from 10pm until 6am *
- Thursday 8 July – Night-time closure from 10pm until 6am
- Friday 10 July – Monday 13 July – Full weekend closure from 10pm until 6am

* During the night-time closures on 7 & 8 July, we will be suspending the one-way system at Pindar Road and it will only be accessed from the traffic light end (Pindar Road East).

The roadworks are necessary due to the serious deterioration of the road surface on Essex Road, which is heavily used by HGVs on a daily basis. We apologies for any inconvenience that these works may cause and we appreciate your cooperation.

Please visit the project website [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/newriverbridge](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/newriverbridge) for further information. The website also contains an interactive diversion map.

We have engaged with local residents and businesses within Hoddesdon Business Park in advance of these necessary closures, to help mitigate the disruption as much as possible.

Waste Recycling Centre

We want to stress that Hoddesdon Recycling Centre on Pindar Road will remain open throughout the road closure. It will be accessible via the diversion route, however please be advised your journey may take longer than usual.
Till next time…

Keep an eye out for next month’s edition, which will explore the intriguing history of the New River, an engineering marvel of its time.

What is happening in July?

• Once the scaffolding is in place around the abutments, we will install five 55 tonne precast concrete bridge beams using a 750 tonne mobile crane! This will be a spectacular piece of engineering to witness.

• We will be carrying out the long awaited repairs to Essex Road which sorely needs resurfacing and refreshing on 6th – 13th July

• We will begin work on the bridge culverts by excavating and preparing foundations and commence the temporary brook diversion.

Coming soon:
New River Bridge YouTube Channel

The current bridge in 1955 (Source: Thames Water)

Want to know more?
You can find out more about the project by visiting our dedicated website:
www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/newriverbridge

You can follow us on Twitter:
@Herts_Highways

Or on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/HertsHighways

Subscribe for email updates:
www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/updateme

Contact Us
If you have any questions, please email newriverbridge@hertfordshire.gov.uk or call 0300 123 4047.

Update Me Bulletin
We’ve launched a new e-bulletin with visual updates and key snippets of information with progress on the New River Bridge Improvement Scheme.

To get your easy to digest update straight to your inbox, simply subscribe by visiting www.Hertfordshire.gov.uk/updateme

Please share these details with friends, family, colleagues and neighbours.