

A585

Windy Harbour to Skippool

October 2023

Welcome to the latest edition of the A585 Windy Harbour to Skippool project newsletter.

Ahead of the new bypass opening in winter 2023, we wanted to provide you with an update on the progress we've been making.

As well as letting you know what's happening over the coming months and the work we've been doing in the community.

We would like to say a massive thank you for your ongoing patience while we deliver our essential work to improve journeys in and around your area.



What we've done so far

Skippool junction

We've made some good progress on the project over summer, including at Skippool junction where we have:

- opened two extra westbound lanes, heading towards Amounderness Way
- installed a new drainage system and kerbs

- completed the central reservation safety barrier at Amounderness Way
- started installing traffic islands

We also opened additional lanes during the school holidays to help improve traffic flows.

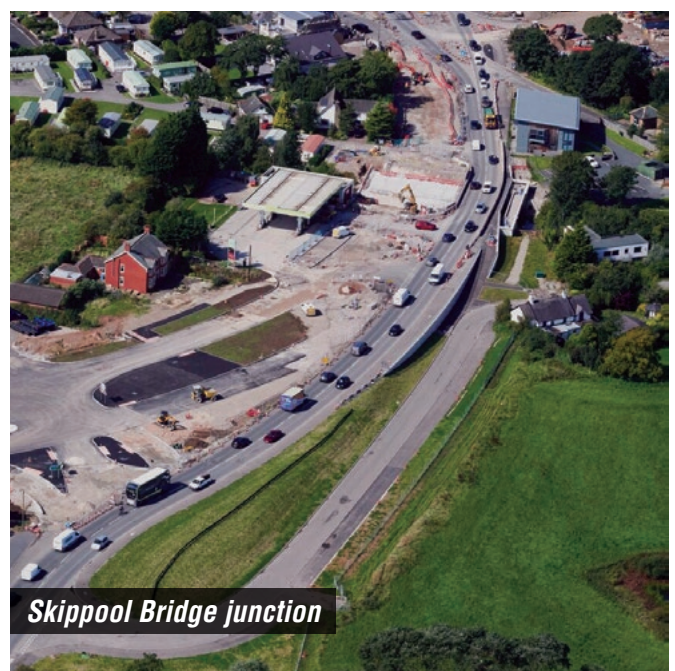


Skippool Bridge junction

At the Skippool Bridge junction we've installed traffic islands, traffic signal cabling and laid topsoil on the verges. We've also completed the bridge walls and waterproofed the bridge deck, while keeping traffic moving.

Windy Harbour

We recently completed the eastbound carriageway at Windy Harbour. As a result, we've put a temporary contraflow system in place that allows traffic to travel in both directions on the completed eastbound side of the road. This means we can keep drivers on the move and reduce disruption while we finish our work on the westbound carriageway.



Lodge Lane

In June we opened the new Lodge Lane bridge, restoring the connection between Little Singleton and Singleton village and paving the way for the bypass work to continue through the area.

In addition, we've started constructing the new road under the bridge, which includes an upgraded drainage system.

Poulton junction

Utility and communication services have been installed at Poulton junction and we're well underway with earthworks in the area to create extra lanes and traffic islands.

Please bear with us as we progress this work, as there might be some delays to your journeys.



Across the whole of the project, we've completed nearly 50% of our road resurfacing work and put 75% of the safety barriers in place.

We're also preparing for seeding and landscaping across the scheme.

Our programme includes planting more than 29,000 trees, 45,000 shrubs and over 360,000 plants.



What's happening next?

Ahead of opening the new bypass to traffic in winter 2023, we'll be working hard to complete our work so drivers can benefit from improved journey reliability.

The project will also support economic growth in Wyre and Fylde, as well as improve safety of walkers, horse riders and cyclists.



Skippool junction

In the coming months we'll be completing our work at Skippool junction. This includes installing permanent traffic signals and the remaining traffic islands.

Skippool Bridge junction

Our work to install a new central reservation safety barrier at Skippool Bridge junction is underway. The strengthened structure reduces the risk of vehicle crossover between carriageways, improving the safety of motorists.

We'll be finishing the installation of traffic islands at Mains Lane in early 2024. This work can't be completed until the new bypass is open.



Windy Harbour

A new footbridge close to Windy Harbour junction is also nearing completion. This will allow walkers and cyclists to cross the new bypass from Pool Foot Lane footpath, providing safe access to the village of Singleton.

The footbridge includes disability ramps enabling access to and from the soon-to-be de-commissioned Garstang New Road.



Poulton junction



Work at Poulton junction continues to progress. The next stage of work will include installing traffic signals and putting new kerbs and pavements in place.

To enable us to safely complete our work, traffic management will be in place on Garstang Road East during this period. Thank you for your continued patience.

Finishing work

Following the opening of the new bypass, finishing work will continue into early 2024. This includes the de-trunking of Mains Lane and de-commissioning of Garstang New Road.

We'll also be removing traffic management, as well as carrying out improvements at Shard junction.

What is de-commissioning?

A de-commissioned road is a highway that has been removed from service by closing it down or having its recognition as a national highway removed.

For Garstang New Road this means there'll be no access for vehicles once the new bypass is open. We'll be making use of the de-commissioned road by providing a safe route for walkers, cyclists and horse riders.

What is de-trunking?

De-trunking is returning an A-road back to a local one and handing responsibility for that road to the local highway authority. In this instance from ourselves to Lancashire County Council.

When we de-trunk Mains Lane, we will be constructing new cycle paths and walkways to make it much safer for walkers, cyclists and horse riders.

Our work in your community



Pictured at the newly transformed play areas are staff from the A585 project team with happy school pupils

Transforming a local primary school's play area

We teamed up with Carr Head Primary School in Poulton to support the transformation of their play areas.

The school has previously struggled with on-going drainage issues on their land, which limited the opportunities for children to enjoy any outdoor activities.

Year 3 teacher Vicki Cooper, in a commendable effort to create a more engaging play environment for the pupils, embarked on a mission to enhance the school's play areas.

Vicki's dedication to the children of Carr Head school shone through when faced with making the play area accessible for the needs of all children. Vicki proposed the idea of installing a pathway to ensure every child – including wheelchair users – could enjoy the newly created spaces.

Knowing assistance would be required to complete the challenge Vicki contacted us for help. Our A585 Windy Harbour to Skippool team, in collaboration with Kier, got to work and excavated a pathway and ramp across the play area, increasing accessibility throughout.

Daniel Moore, Project Manager at National Highways, expressed his enthusiasm for the project, stating:

"At National Highways, we are committed to enhancing the communities we serve."

"We are proud to support Carr Head Primary School in this initiative, ensuring that all children can enjoy the new play areas."



"This project showcases the positive impact we can make when communities and organisations work together."

Vicki Cooper, Year 3 Teacher at Carr Head Primary School said:

"Carr Head introduced the outdoor play and learning project and has been developing the grounds alongside this."

"An enormous new sandpit was constructed to be enjoyed at lunchtime but access to reach the sandpit was challenging, especially if the field was wet and muddy."



"National Highways and Kier came to the rescue and constructed an all-weather access path to ensure that all children can access the sandpit safely. Thank you!"



Supporting your community

Throughout the scheme we've been working with local groups and charities, helping to support initiatives and the community.

In recent months we have provided sing-along sessions at a local elderly care home, volunteered at Trussell Trust foodbank and played our part in beach clean-up.



When you're on the road

At this time of year many motorists have to contend with a low sun on their morning commute and then face being dazzled as the sun sets as they travel home in the evening.



Our top tips to stay safe:

- clean your windscreen inside and out, a hazy windscreen can make the glare from the sun worse
- use sunglasses and visors to block out the sun's glare if the sun dazzles you, slow down.

For more helpful tips visit:
nationalhighways.co.uk/road-safety/travelling-in-severe-weather.



We'll be continuing to support the community until we've completed our work.

Have your say - ECHO feedback tool

Would you like to share your thoughts and feedback about the project? Visit our A585 Windy Harbour to Skippool feedback tool to have your say.

The feedback tool includes an interactive map, where you can click on a location to make a comment or provide feedback. You can access ECHO via our project website, you can also scan the QR code below with your smartphone to have your say.

Scan the QR code to go to the ECHO customer feedback tool.



How to find out more

To sign up for updates or to find out more information on the project, please visit our dedicated scheme webpage:

nationalhighways.co.uk/our-roads/north-west/a585-windy-harbour-to-skipool.

Alternatively, you can follow us on:

Facebook: **National Highways: North-West**
or on

Twitter: **@HighwaysNWEST**

If you have any questions regarding the project, please email our dedicated project inbox at:

A585windyharbourtoskipool@nationalhighways.co.uk

or call us on

0300 123 5000

(24-hour Customer Contact Centre).

Scan the QR code to take you directly to our project website.



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