

# A585 Windy Harbour to Skippool

June 2022



**W**elcome to the June edition of the A585 Windy Harbour to Skippool project newsletter, keeping you up to date with the latest progress and information. At National Highways we believe in a connected country and our network makes these connections possible.

We strive to improve our major roads and motorways, engineering the future to keep people moving. We want to make sure all our major roads are more reliable, durable and most importantly, safe.

Since our last update in February, we've been working hard to complete some of the main sections of the new route.

## **Amounderness Way**

To accommodate four lanes of traffic, we have widened Amounderness Way which includes a new slip road accessing Skippool Road.

In addition, we'll be creating a new shared cycle and footway on the north verge of Breck Road that will lead towards the bridge at Skippool.

## **Skippool junction** (pictured above)

We continue to widen the north verge from Skippool junction towards Mains Lane.

In addition, we'll need to close Breck Road (A588 – southbound only) at its junction with Skippool for approximately six weeks. We've done our best to minimise disruption and have coordinated the closure

so it takes place during the school holidays. The closure will facilitate an excavation that will form a new section of Breck Road and enable us to install drainage, kerbs, street signs and lighting columns.

The diversion route will be signposted and we'll write to residents nearer the time with more details. We've looked into several options and closing Breck Road at this location is the safest and most viable option for both the travelling public and our workforce.

We've also removed street lighting columns and vegetation and diverted utility services on the south side of Breck Road. As we approach autumn, we'll start to build traffic islands and signals at the junction.

### **Pedestrians and cyclists**

We know that Skippool roundabout is an important crossing place for pedestrians, so we've installed clear diversion signage to make sure everyone can follow a safe route to their destination. We kindly ask that cyclists dismount when passing through the pedestrian area.

### **Skippool Bridge and Mains Lane**

Working with major service providers, we have diverted a vast amount of water, gas, electricity and telecommunications. We've opened the new entrance to Mains Lane, installed drainage and realigned kerbs. Bridge Beams have been installed and the first phase of the new bridge deck is complete. We'll be switching traffic to the new bridge in the



summer, before safely demolishing the old bridge. We will write to residents in advance of these works.

### **Off road section between Old Mains Lane and Lodge Lane** (pictured top-right)

To help assist and protect wildlife, we've installed mammal crossings at various locations under the bypass and started to construct a wildlife pond next to Garstang Road East.

### **Lodge Lane** (pictured page bottom)

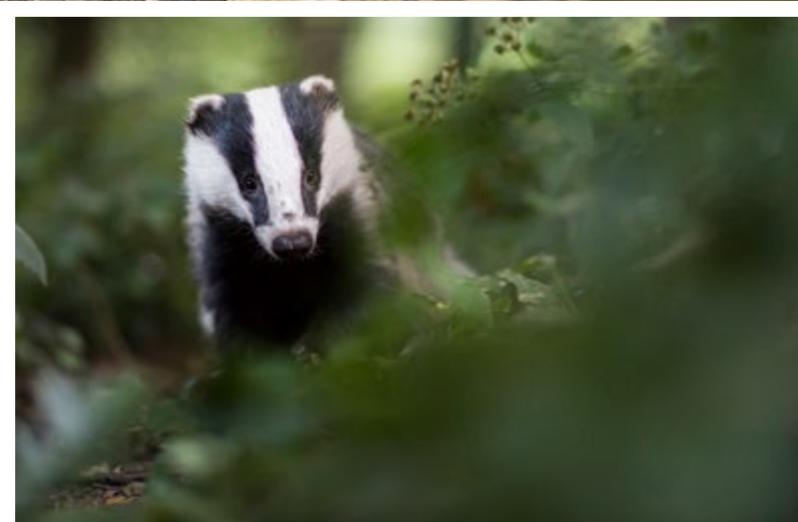
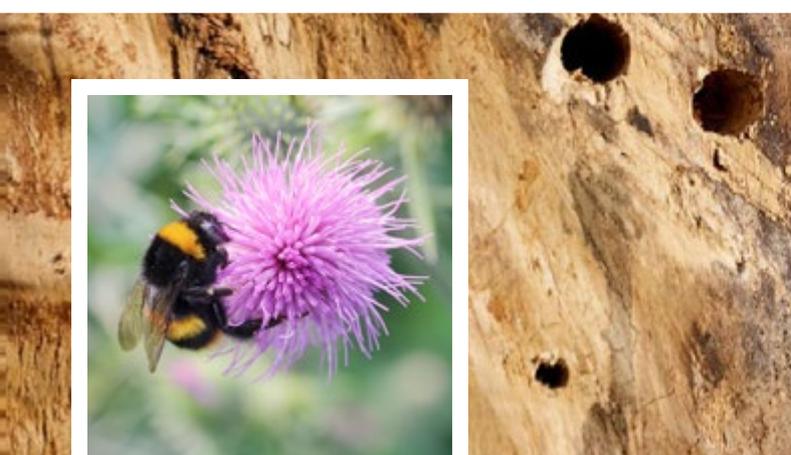
Construction of the new bridge is progressing well. Piling to build the bridge support walls will continue until late summer 2022, before we switch traffic back onto Lodge Lane towards the end of the year.

Lodge Lane will form the new bridge deck and the new bypass will run underneath as reflected in our artist's impression (below).



If you would like to see what the new bypass will look like when it opens to traffic, please follow this link:





## Garstang New Road towards Windy Harbour

We've started to build the foundations for the new Grange footbridge and continue to construct the bypass in the field next to Garstang New Road. The new footbridge will be built off-site and installed during winter 2022.

### We care about our environment

Biodiversity plays a huge part in our project. Our landscape design will improve biodiversity by more than **18%**.

Along with enhancing the landscape we shall create over **forty** special habitats to protect great crested newts and other reptiles and have installed **eight** bee posts to provide homes for solitary bees and insects. As part of the drainage design, **five** dry mammal underpasses have been constructed, making it safe for species such as otters and badgers to cross under the new bypass.

The early planting in 2021 is in its second year and has established well. In addition, we have placed **eighteen** bird and **eighteen** bat roost boxes across

the project, to provide homes for wildlife as we head to towards the summer.

Furthermore, we're working hard to reduce our impact on the local community and the environment using considerate construction methods including:

- Constructing bridges off-site and using efficient machinery to reduce our direct carbon footprint
- Re-using over **250,000** tonnes of recycled stone on site
- Using **seven** solar powered noise and **four** dust monitors on site to assess our construction impact on our community
- We have skips located at each site to segregate and dispose of waste responsibly
- Using haul roads on the project, allowing us to direct construction traffic away from main roads and reduce the amount of road closures in the local area.



## Work in the community

### The Great British Spring Clean

Braving the Great British weather, we've once again been out and about in the local area, volunteering over thirty hours of litter picking time on a very wet morning.

As part of the Great British Spring Clean, we collected twenty large sacks of rubbish including items such as take-away cartons, disposable cups, cans, clothing, plastic bags, face masks, crisp packets and even a bird cage!

A585 National Highways Project Director, Adam Williams, said:

*"For a second year, we took the opportunity to get some fresh air and exercise, whilst doing something really positive for the community and environment. The rain didn't dampen our spirits as we covered over five miles between us, collecting twenty bags of rubbish and rubble. Well done to everyone involved."*

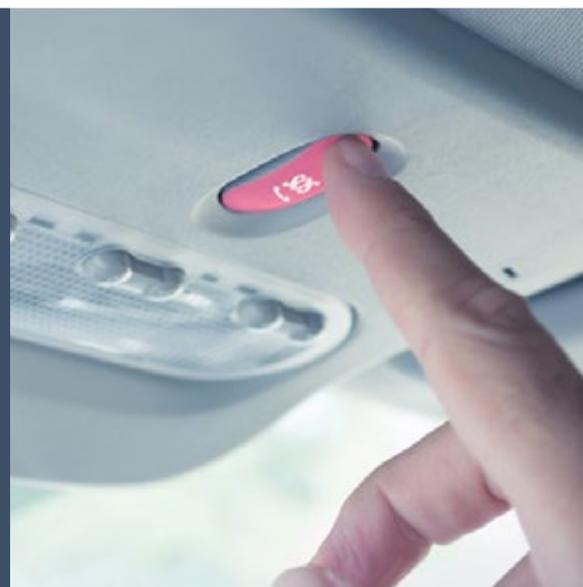
A local resident gave excellent feedback and told us:

*"I just wanted to thank Kier for their excellent work in picking litter recently along Garstang Road East, it looks so much tidier and cleaner. Thanks again."*

## eCall SOS - the safety feature that gets you help quicker and faster

Did you know that since April 2018, most cars and vans have been fitted with an emergency call system, known as eCall. This built-in safety feature is automatically activated in the event of an incident when the airbags are deployed. This can also be manually activated by the driver or passenger by pressing a button – this button is known as eCall SOS.

To find out more about this feature, please access the following link: <https://nationalhighways.co.uk/road-safety/ecall>



## Build a Bridge

As we're building three bridges on the A585 Windy Harbour to Skippool project, our team has been out and about in Poulton-le-Fylde delivering "Build a Bridge" workshops at local schools including both Singleton and Breck Primary.

The workshops gave the children a chance to explore practical solutions to classroom engineering by building bridges out of pasta, marshmallows and paper. We tested their completed bridges by using different weights and the team who built the strongest bridge was the winner.

Not only did the children get the opportunity to show their engineering skills, they managed to find time to eat some marshmallows along the way. In addition, our sub-contractor brought along their digger simulator to provide the children with an opportunity to practice



their construction skills in the safety of their own school hall, giving everyone a chance to wear hard hats and hi-vis jackets. Even the teachers enjoyed testing their skills on the simulator.

We'd like to thank both schools for having us and allowing us to provide these workshops, the children and teachers were brilliant and everyone had tons of fun.



## Bloomin' marvellous - Depots in Bloom returns

We're once again showing off our gardening skills by taking part in the Depots in Bloom competition. The competition aims to increase the biodiversity of our workspaces, improve our well-being and encourage integrated teams.

Entries will be judged on several factors including the variety of plants on show, creative reuse of materials in planters, general appearance and maintenance of space, additional features added to attract pollinators and the WOW factor!

The initiative on the A585 is being driven by two of our colleagues, both local to Poulton. Frankie Webster and Paul Ainscow have built a wellness garden in their own time from scratch, using nothing but recycled material from site.

Frankie told us: *"I've always loved working with wood and using creative solutions to reduce waste. Combine this with my love for nature and gardening and I was only too happy to get involved with Depots in Bloom. It's such an exciting project, benefitting the workforce here on the A585. Creating a natural space is a wonderful way to support employee wellbeing"*.

In line with the Government's net-zero plan, Frankie said the team tries to make nothing go to waste: *"I've made a swing out of site wood and old rope, hanging baskets from hard hats and I'm in the process of building a bird manor hotel, so our feathered friends can enjoy the garden too"*.

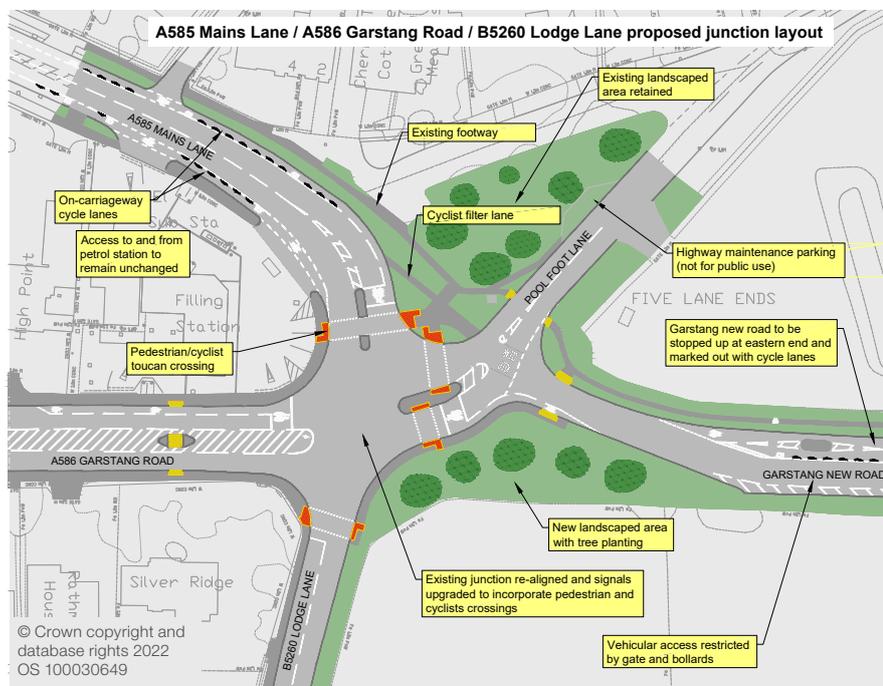
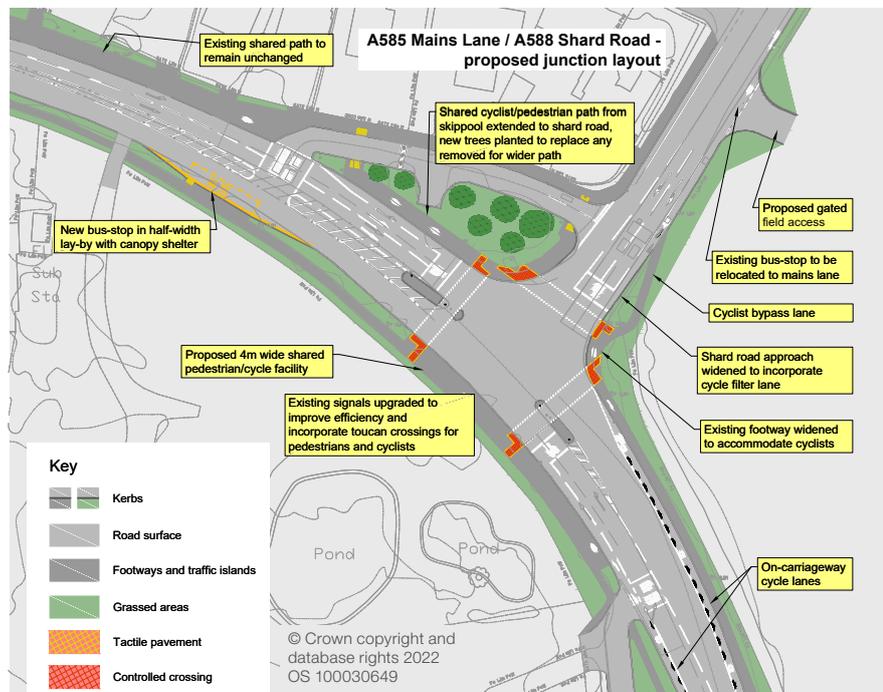
## What is de-trunking?

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

## What is de-commissioning?

A de-commissioned road is a highway that has been removed from service by closing it down or had its authorisation as a national highway removed. It can remain as a local road only offering access to properties or farmland where it is the only access to enable farming equipment to be taken onto the farmland.

When we de-trunk Mains Lane and de-commission Garstang New Road, we will be constructing new cycle paths and walkways to benefit pedestrians and cyclists. We will give residents advanced notice when these works take place.



## Big Sleep Out event for Streetlife

Not ones to ever shy away from helping those in need, two of our colleagues Donna Howard and Windy Harbour customer manager, Gaynor Wainwright swapped their warm beds for the cold Blackpool pavement on Friday 25 March as part of the #BigSleepOut2022.

In support of the Streetlife Trust, a Blackpool charity that supports vulnerable young people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, Donna and Gaynor tucked themselves in under the bright lights of Blackpool Tower hoping for a restful night.

Donna said: "We were joined by around 100 people who all swapped their warm and comfortable beds for a sleeping bag to sleep out on the cobbled streets of Blackpool town centre. It was a very cold, noisy and uncomfortable night but all worth it to help raise awareness and support for the charity."



## Upcoming information exhibitions

We'd like to provide you with an update on the project and allow people the opportunity to ask any questions they may have regarding the project. Once again, we'll be using our engagement vehicle to hold public information events at the following locations:

### Morrisons Supermarket

Amounderness Way  
Thornton-Cleveleys  
FY5 3TS

Wednesday 22 June and  
Thursday 23 June  
1pm to 7pm



### Lidl Supermarket

Clark Street  
Poulton Industrial Estate  
Poulton-Le-Fylde  
FY6 8JW

Friday 24 June  
9am to 2pm



If you need help accessing this or any other National Highways information, please call **0300 123 5000** and we will help you.



## How to find out more

To sign up for updates or to find out further information on the project, please visit our website: [nationalhighways.co.uk/A585-WH](https://nationalhighways.co.uk/A585-WH)

Alternatively, you can follow us on

**Facebook:** [National Highways: North-West](#) or on

**Twitter:** [@HighwaysNWEST](#)

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



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



## Have your say

Do you want to share your thoughts and feedback with the team?

Visit our project feedback tool “ECHO” to have your say. The feedback tool includes an interactive map, where you can click on a specific location to make a comment or provide us with your general feedback, you can access “ECHO” on our project website [nationalhighways.co.uk/A585-WH](https://nationalhighways.co.uk/A585-WH)

The **ECHO customer feedback tool** is available to provide your feedback. It can be accessed by scanning the QR code below, or visiting the following webpage: <https://map.govmetric.com/A585WindyHarbour>

If you have any questions regarding the project, please email our dedicated project inbox at: [A585windyharbourtoskipool@nationalhighways.co.uk](mailto:A585windyharbourtoskipool@nationalhighways.co.uk). Or call us on 0300 123 5000 (24-hour Customer Contact Centre).

You can also contact the project Customer Team at: [A585WindyHarbourToSkipool@kier.co.uk](mailto:A585WindyHarbourToSkipool@kier.co.uk)

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