



Official Albury Road opening by Cllr Phil Bibby

A120 Bypass (Little Hadham) and Flood Alleviation Scheme

Project Newsletter
June 2020

On 29 June we celebrated a key project milestone with the official opening of Albury Road by Cllr Phil Bibby, Executive Member Highways and Environment at Hertfordshire County Council.

The road was closed so it could be realigned onto the new bridge over the new bypass which included installing drainage, kerbs, road surfacing, white lining, signage and landscaping ready for this 900m stretch of road to open.



The A120 bypass project team at the Albury Road opening

Scheme completion update

The project team have done an excellent job of keeping things moving on site in recent months, despite the unprecedented nature of the COVID-19 pandemic. It has however, become apparent that the social distancing measures are having an impact on the efficiency and productivity of a number of key construction activities.

Following a detailed review we have now accepted that the works completion date will now be delayed as a result of Covid 19 and we anticipate that the scheme will now likely be completed and open in Late Summer 2021.

Due to the uncertainties associated with the pandemic we are reviewing the programme and working methods on a regular basis.

Key Activities

- *Albury Tributary bridge:* Piling is finished and preparation works have begun to start building the pile caps.
- *River Ash bridge:* Piling is finished and pile cap construction is ongoing. A pile cap is a thick concrete mat that rests on concrete or timber piles that have been driven into soft or unstable ground to provide a suitable stable foundation.
- *Cradle End brook:* The culverts are being laid in the coming weeks, followed by the Cradle End brook.



Flood Alleviation Progress

The favourable weather is allowing the flood alleviation works to gain momentum.

The structural works for the entrance to the River Ash culvert are complete and the embankment is starting to be built up to, and over it. A feature to enable the water stored behind the embankment to be safely lowered is currently being built.

Work has also commenced on the River Ash spillway. The spillway is the top level of water being retained behind the dam and any surplus will be allowed to pass down the spillway and into River Ash.

At the Albury Tributary reservoir site, work on the culvert that will take the watercourse through the embankment has started. The foundation has been laid and the steel reinforcement for the culvert is being assembled.

Piles have also been installed to support the bridge that will carry the bypass over the reservoir's spillway. Works on the culvert, bridge and spillway will continue through the summer.



Laying the foundations for the Albury Tributary culvert and piling to support the bridge over the reservoir spillway



Lloyd Taylor Drain

At the Lloyd Taylor Drain Diversion site near The Smithy in Little Hadham, we have diverted utility services away from the location of the new culvert that will take the new channel under the road.

This channel will have a far greater flow capacity than the existing watercourse that runs behind the housing of Standon Road.

Whilst the new channel will take all the flows from the drain's upper catchment, the existing channel will remain in place to drain the small area whose flows cannot be diverted around the area of housing itself.

The new culvert's construction is programmed to take place during the school summer holidays as it requires the closure of the road to vehicles, although access for pedestrians and cyclists (dismounted) will be maintained past the works.



Panoramic view of the full length of the River Ash culvert from the top of the embankment

Hadham Park Underpass

The excavation and preparation work of Hadham Park Underpass have now been completed.

The construction of the base of the underpass was the largest continuous pour of concrete on the project so far, pouring 280m³ of concrete (photos below). The next step will be to construct the walls of the underpass.



Before the concrete pour



After the concrete pour

#Didyouknow – Royal visitors to Hadham Hall

In 1578, Sir Henry Capell welcomed Queen Elizabeth I as a guest at Hadham Hall. The Capell family used the hall to entertain important guests, such as King William III who also visited in April 1698.



Site plan

Upcoming Project Works

Our work continues following Covid-19 safety guidelines. Social distancing has changed the way we plan and carry out work, which may cause cancellations or changes to roadworks and closures.

Road Closures

The Ford: Full road closure
Thursday 9 July - Tuesday 1 September

It is necessary to close The Ford to vehicular traffic to install a new culvert for the diverted Lloyd Taylor Drain. This is to support the flood alleviation works. The closure will be to the south of The Smythy, over a length of approximately 100 metres.

The road will be fully excavated and therefore this closure will be in place for 24 hours a day for safety reasons.

Access will be maintained to The Smythy for residents, visitors and deliveries. Pedestrians and cyclists (dismounted) will still be able to use the footpath during these works.

There will be no bank holiday working at this site.

Roadworks

Two-way traffic lights between 8.00am to 6.00pm (weekdays) on the A120 Hadham Road (Hadham Park Roundabout): **2 – 10 July.**

Thank you for your continued patience.

You can find out more about the project by visiting our dedicated website:

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/a120bypass



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You can now watch our progress on site with our latest drone and time-lapse footage. Visit our **YouTube** channel: <http://bit.ly/A120videos>

You can also keep up-to-date with all roadworks using the One.Network service.

Type **One.Network** into your internet search engine and then type **'Ware (Little Hadham)'** into the search box to find out more. You can pick different date ranges from the drop-down menu to see upcoming works.

You can also call the GRAHAM site team at Standon Road on **01279 314182** for immediate enquiries and concerns.

Please note: Monthly drop-in sessions are cancelled until further notice.