

A303 Amesbury to Berwick Down

TR010025

Deadline 1

A note confirming discussions with Graham Parker (RSA (Amesbury 2018)) in respect of the A303 Parker Plan prepared by Balfour Beatty for the former Highways Agency

Planning Act 2008

The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010

April 2019



1 A note confirming discussions with Graham Parker (RSA (Amesbury 2018)) in respect of the A303 Parker Plan prepared by Balfour Beatty for the former Highways Agency

1.1.1 Lieutenant Colonel (retired) Graham Parker has requested that two documents be made available to the Examining Authority. They date back to the time when previous proposals for the A303 Stonehenge Improvement were subject to a public inquiry in 2004. The two documents requested are:

1. A303 Stonehenge Improvement: The 'Parker Route' Assessment Report. Volume 1. December 2003.
Document Reference No. PIA-HIG-GEN-RO18.
2. A303 Stonehenge Improvement: The 'Parker Route' Assessment Report. Volume 2 - Figures. January 2004.
Document Reference No. PIA-HIG-GEN-RO18.

1.1.2 At the time of the public inquiry into the previous scheme proposals, the former Highways Agency had contracted with a joint venture of Balfour Beatty and Costain for the design and construction of the scheme. Following the withdrawal of the previous scheme by the then government in December 2007, the Balfour Beatty-Costain contract was terminated and a full download was subsequently received of the documents they had retained in their files.

1.1.3 From an extensive search of the available records dating back to 2003/4, including all the Balfour Beatty-Costain documents, the first (Volume 1) document has been found, but without a complete set of its accompanying appendices. The contents pages of the second (Volume 2) document has also been found, but without its accompanying figures. The Volume 1 (without appendices) and Volume 2 documents that have been found are attached with this note.

1.1.4 Graham Parker will be advised of what has been found and submitted at his request. He will also be advised that, if he has a full set of the documents, the Applicant will be pleased to facilitate their being copied to assist his submission of them.

- 1.1.5 The Parker Route was presented as Alternative Route AR4 at the 2004 public inquiry. Several of the figures in Volume 2 were showing details of the Parker Route's alignment. The AR4 route alignment can instead be seen within another document which has been found (with a reference no. P1A/HIG/GEN/R019), also attached to this note. Consideration of AR4 at the 2004 public inquiry can be found summarised in the Inspector's Report (paragraphs 7.5.3 – 7.5.75 and 10.5.11 – 10.5.21) from the inquiry which is also attached.
- 1.1.6 The Parker Route and matters raised at the 2004 public inquiry pre-date the options appraisal process that was undertaken as part of the development of the current Scheme proposals, as explained in Chapter 3 of the Environmental Statement [APP-041]. The appraisal of alternative routes is set out in detail in the Technical Appraisal Report (TAR), which has been submitted as part of this Deadline 1 submission by the Applicant. Alternative routes, equivalent to the Parker Route considered at the 2004 public inquiry, were appraised and discounted as part of the development of the current Scheme. These alternatives are part of the 'Corridor F' descriptions and appraisals within Chapters 5, 6 and 7 of the TAR.

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