

# A303 Sparkford to Ilchester Dualling Scheme TR010036

## 6.3 Environmental Statement Appendix 4.9 Environmental Consultation Meeting Minutes

APFP Regulation 5(2)(a)  
Planning Act 2008

Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed  
Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009  
July 2018



Infrastructure Planning

Planning Act 2008

**The Infrastructure Planning  
(Applications: Prescribed Forms  
and Procedure) Regulations  
2009**

**A303 Sparkford to Ilchester Dualling  
Scheme**

Development Consent Order 201[X]

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**6.3 Environmental Statement  
Appendix 4.9 Environmental Consultation Meeting Minutes**

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<b>Regulation Number:</b>	Regulation 5(2)(a)
<b>Planning Inspectorate Scheme Reference:</b>	TR010036
<b>Application Document Reference:</b>	6.3
<b>Author:</b>	A303 Sparkford to Ilchester Dualling Scheme Project Team, Highways England

<b>Version</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Status of Version</b>
Rev 0	July 2018	Application Issue

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## Highways England RIS Schemes: A358 Taunton to Southfields and A303 Sparkford to Ilchester Dualling

### Initial Ecology Consultation Meeting

<b>Date:</b>	Tuesday 2 May 2017	<b>Time:</b>	11:00 - 12:30
<b>Location:</b>	Natural England, Horizon House, Bristol		
<b>Attendees:</b>	Julia Barrett (JB), Mott MacDonald Sweco Simon Mason (SM), Mott MacDonald Sweco Vicky Hollands (VH), Mott MacDonald Sweco Andrea Evans (AE), Mott MacDonald Sweco Oliver Lowe (OL), Natural England Simon Stonehouse (SS), Natural England Hannah Nelson (HN) Highways England		
<b>Apologies:</b>	N/A		

No.	Actions/Key Messages	Owner
<b>1.0</b>	<b>Welcome and Introductions</b>	
	All attendees introduced themselves.	
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Safety Moment</b>	
	VH explained that a Health and Safety issue faced by surveyors onsite during the bat survey season is fatigue. MM compensate for this by using staff on a rota and having accommodation nearby.	
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Background to the Scheme (s)</b>	
	JB gave an overview of both schemes, how the options have been chosen, the DCO submission date of May 2018 and expected construction start date of 2020.	
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Purpose of the Meeting</b>	
	JB explained that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss survey methodology for bats, general protected species surveys and develop mitigation and NE principles.	
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Bat Survey Methodology</b>	
	OL confirmed that NE are happy with the general scope of the surveys outlined in the bat survey methodology memo, however concerns were raised regarding the length of the transect surveys. OL suggested that the transect routes could be shortened. SM explained that although the transects are long, surveys are still in	OL

No.	Actions/Key Messages	Owner
	<p>line with the 2016 Bat Conservation Trust (BCT) guidelines (suggests transect lengths of 3-5km). The number of point counts along each transect has been increased from 8 to 10 to provide more data along the long transects. SM also explained that 3 statics are being used per transect.</p> <p>SS agreed the survey effort sounds sufficient but would check with NE bat advisor.</p> <p>SM explained that lesser horse and barbastelle have been identified within the scheme extents of the A358 and A303. The need for additional radiotracking studies for both schemes was discussed and it was concluded that the need for this should be determined by the results of the initial bat activity and roost surveys. Radio tracking is an intrusive method and should only be used where sufficient data cannot be obtained by non-intrusive survey methods. The proximity of various bat Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) to the schemes was also discussed. Previous radiotracking information on Hestercombe House SAC was shown which illustrates that bats associated with this SAC use a core area to the west of the M5 corridor and were unlikely to use habitats within A358 scheme. SM asked NE to comment on the requirement of radio tracking for both schemes. OE will discuss with the NE bat advisor to get clarification and will provide written advice.</p> <p>OL mentioned that due to the presence of late emerging species such as lesser horseshoe, bat activity surveys should be extended to up to 3 hours after sunset to ensure activity was recorded.</p> <p>SM expressed concern that due to land access issues some areas may not be subject to a survey during all or part of the survey season. OL explained that it should be made clear why access couldn't be obtained and a record of what efforts have been made to obtain access should be kept.</p>	
	<p>The need for landscape-scale bat surveys was discussed. A deviation from the bat memo which was submitted to NE in advance of the meeting was discussed, with SM suggesting that due to the number of surveys being undertaken in the 2017 season MM are looking to delay the Landscape transects until 2018. The other surveys will provide robust data for assessing the impacts and any necessary licence applications in advance of the DCO application. The primary aim of the landscape transects is to provide baseline data for monitoring impacts post construction. Undertaking landscape surveys in 2018 would provide this baseline data in advance of construction. OL to speak to NE bat advisor and will confirm whether undertaking landscape scale transects in 2018</p>	OL

No.	Actions/Key Messages	Owner
	post DCO application would be acceptable and provide written advice on this.	
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Outline of broad ecological surveys for both schemes</b>	
	<p>VH and AE gave a broad overview of what surveys are being undertaken for each scheme and what notable species have been found to date for both schemes.</p> <p>VH informed NE that lesser horse shoe bats, water voles, reptiles, great crested newts, a dormouse starter nest and evidence of badgers have been identified within the study area of the A303.</p> <p>AE informed NE that dormice, have been identified within 2 of the twenty-three dormouse sites set up across the A358, great crested newts have been identified within one of the 114 ponds, in addition a barbastelle bat was caught whilst mist netting, evidence and badgers, water vole and otters have also been identified within the study area of the A358.</p> <p>SM enquired about the survey effort required for terrestrial invertebrates, SM to put together a survey methodology so NE can comment.</p> <p>SS mentioned that the A358 scheme will have a low risk to birds from the Somerset Level SAC from water run off pollution. SM asked for NE if wintering bird surveys were required for both schemes SS confirmed these were not necessary.</p>	SM and OL
<b>7.0</b>	<b>New GCN policies and application for RIS Schemes</b>	
	<p>VH enquired whether the new GCN licencing policy would be relevant to both schemes. OL explained that out of the 4 new policies 3 would be relevant and can assist MM with no additional charge.</p> <p>VH to send memo to NE regarding GCN mitigation for the A303, which NE will provide comments on.</p>	
<b>8.0</b>	<b>Land Access</b>	
	<p>JB and SM explained that land access for the A358 is a problem as we have a number of areas with no access and areas where land owners have not responded. SS and OL said it should be made clear why access couldn't be obtained and records of what efforts have been made to gain access should be kept.</p>	
<b>9.0</b>	<b>Mitigation</b>	
	<p>NE stated that the usual advice applies, avoid, minimise, mitigate and compensate. HN stated that HE is pushing a drive towards no net loss of habitat.</p>	

No.	Actions/Key Messages	Owner
	<p>SM and AE mentioned that there is a large area of ancient woodland that will be directly impacted by the A358 scheme. OL said there is good standing advice on the loss of ancient woodland but could provide more specialist advice.</p> <p>SS explained that evidence needs to be provided that every effort has to be made to avoid or minimise the impact to ancient woodland.</p> <p>VH explained that an area of ancient woodland on the A303 was going to be directly impacted by the scheme, however the route alignment has been changed to avoid this, but there will still be indirect impacts through air quality.</p>	
<b>10.0</b>	<b>Future engagement / Environmental Working Group</b>	
	JB confirmed the NE that face to face engagement for broader environmental issues should be held every 4 months, with more focused engagement for specialist areas.	
<b>11.0</b>	<b>AOB</b>	
	SS confirmed that landscape advice would be provided as and when required.	

## A303 Sparkford to Ilchester Dualling

### Environmental Technical Working Group – Kick Off Meeting

<b>Date:</b>	Thursday 7 December 2017	<b>Time:</b>	13:00
<b>Location:</b>	South Somerset District Council, Yeovil		
<b>Attendees:</b>	Julia Barrett (JB) – MMSJV Sophie Bennett (SB) – MMSJV Clare Postlethwaite (CP) – MMSJV Claire Uden (CU) – MMSJV Vicky Hollands (VH) – MMSJV Oliver May (OM) – MMSJV Jenny Timothy (JT) – MMSJV Hannah Maisey (HM) – MMSJV Chris Setters (CS) – MMSJV Dave Pring (DP) – Environment Agency Paul Browning (PB) – Somerset County Council Robert Archer (RA) – South Somerset District Council Andrew Tucker (AT) – South Somerset District Council Sarah North (SN) – National Trust Phil McMahon (PM) – Historic England Ian Clark (IC) – Somerset Gardens Trust (and seconding for the Gardens Trust) Steve Membership (SM) – South West Heritage		
<b>Apologies:</b>	Hannah Nelson (HN) – Highways England Charles Routh (CR) - Natural England		

No.	Actions/Key Messages	Owner
<b>1.0</b>	<b>Welcome and Introductions</b>	
	All attendees introduced themselves.	
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Safety Moment</b>	
	CU provided the Safety Moment which related to driving at work. By way of reducing the risks associated with driving at work, the Mott MacDonald Highways Environment Team are trialling an emergency driver kit supplied as part of the hire care. The kit contains supplies such as a mobile phone charger, water, nutrition, and notes on what to do in the event of an accident.	

No.	Actions/Key Messages	Owner
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Aims of the Environmental Technical Working Group (TWG)</b>	
	<p>JB explained that the aim of the environmental TWG kick off meeting is to introduce consultees to the proposed scheme. This would be followed by more focused meetings with environmental specialist.</p> <p>The working group and any additional discussions are working towards Statements of Common Ground (SOCG), to support the Development Consent Order (DCO) application.</p>	
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Scheme update</b>	
	<p><u>The preferred route</u></p> <p>CS provided an overview of the preferred route (Option 1), which was announced by Highways England on 24 October 2017.</p> <p>CS explained that the current design includes a 70mph high quality dual carriageway, a new junction at Hazlegrove, a potential new junction at Downhead and a new overbridge at Steart Hill. CS explained that as part of the recent Value Engineering (VE) exercise, it is likely that a new underbridge at Traits Lane will no longer be included.</p>	
	<p><u>Programme and key dates</u></p> <p>JB provided an overview of the key dates over the next few months leading up to the DCO submission:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• November 2017 – EIA Scoping Report submitted to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS).</li> <li>• January 2018 - Receipt of Scoping Opinion from PINS.</li> <li>• January and February 2018 – Statutory Consultation.</li> <li>• February 2018 – Design amendments following feedback from the Statutory Consultation</li> <li>• January to February 2018 – Environmental Statement and additional environmental deliverables.</li> <li>• July 2018 – DCO submission.</li> </ul> <p>JB also pointed consultees in the direction of the DCO timeline available in the PRA leaflet.</p>	
	<p><u>Statutory consultation</u></p> <p>JB explained that the statutory consultation will commence on 26 January 2018.</p> <p>This will consist of a series of drop-in sessions over a 6-week period, as well as landowner events and information points.</p> <p>Submission of a Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) report will be available to enable consultees to understand the likely environmental effects.</p>	
<b>5.0</b>	<b>EIA progress and timeframes</b>	
	<p><u>EIA work to date</u></p> <p>JB explained that the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) work has progressed throughout Highways England's Project Control</p>	



No.	Actions/Key Messages	Owner
	<p>Framework (PCF) Options Identification and Options Selection stages. Work included an Environmental Scoping Report, Environmental Assessment Report, Appraisal Summary Tables (ASTs), and environmental surveys, all of which informed the selection of the preferred route.</p>	
	<p><u>EIA work to support the DCO application</u></p> <p>JB explained that an EIA Screening (Determination) Form had been completed, and a draft red line boundary and EIA Scoping Report submitted to PINS in November 2017.</p> <p>JB explained that the following work will be undertaken from now until June 2017 to support the DCO submission:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment and design workshops and development of Environmental Masterplan.</li> <li>• Collaboration with the Buildability Partner to develop a construction strategy.</li> <li>• Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) Report.</li> <li>• Environmental Statement (ES).</li> <li>• Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA).</li> <li>• Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) and Water Framework Directive (WFD) Report.</li> <li>• Licences and consents.</li> </ul>	
	<p><u>Survey update</u></p> <p>SB provided an overview of the following surveys that are either ongoing or will be undertaken to support the DCO submission:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Phase 2 Protected Species surveys (largely complete, a few final surveys required after the shooting season to be undertaken in February 2018).</li> <li>• Baseline noise surveys.</li> <li>• Heritage walkovers.</li> <li>• Geophysical surveys</li> <li>• Arboricultural surveys.</li> <li>• Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) surveys.</li> <li>• Landscape – identification of key views (to support the Landscape chapter of the ES).</li> </ul>	
	<p>JB explained that following this meeting, break-out meetings will take place relating to specific disciplines (one for ecology, one for Hazlegrove House (grade II listed) registered park and garden, and one for the road drainage and water environment.</p> <p>JB explained that the intention is to have another TWG meeting after the statutory consultation and therefore additional break-out meetings following this.</p>	
<b>6.0</b>	<b>A358 Taunton to Southfields – brief update</b>	
	<p>JB provided a brief update on the A358 Taunton to Southfields Scheme:</p>	

No.	Actions/Key Messages	Owner
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A second non-statutory consultation on the A358 will be delivered in early 2018. This will include the whole A358, rather than just the offline sections.</li> <li>• The whole route consultation will enable us to get valuable feedback about how, and where, the offline elements should tie into the existing A358.</li> <li>• Exact start dates are TBC.</li> <li>• The details of options to be consulted on will be confirmed at the start of the consultation itself.</li> </ul>	
<b>7.0</b>	<b>AOB and questions</b>	
	JB asked if all consultees would be happy to contribute to the SOCG required to support the DCO – all consultees agreed. This work will be ongoing.	
	PM requested that Kim Auston (Landscape Architect, Historic England) is included in further meetings relating specifically to heritage.	SB
	RA asked how, going forward, the design would take into consideration environmental effects. The MMSJV team explained that the design and environment teams have been working closely together from the start and will continue this through the preliminary design leading up to the DCO submission. CU also explained the development of an Environmental Masterplan, led principally by the landscape team, and incorporating environmental mitigation from various disciplines to ensure incorporation into the Scheme design.	
	RA requested design details such as the heights of proposed structures. CS explained that this is something that would be touched upon in the heritage meeting to follow.	
	PB asked how the access to the quarry might be affected as a result of the Scheme. CS confirmed that the existing access to the quarry will be retained to allow continued use.	
	<p>IC asked how the existing landowners around Hazlegrove House have taken to the junction proposal at Sparkford. JB explained that the majority of the land is owned by Highways England, and contact will be made with other landowners shortly.</p> <p>SB to send previous meeting minutes on to IC.</p>	SB

## A303 Sparkford to Ilchester Dualling

### Environmental Technical Working Group - Hazlegrove Registered Park and Garden

<b>Date:</b>	Thursday 7 December 2017	<b>Time:</b>	14:00
<b>Location:</b>	South Somerset District Council, Yeovil		
<b>Attendees:</b>	Sophie Bennett (SB) – Environmental Coordinator, MMSJV Claire Uden (CU) – Principal Landscape Architect, MMSJV Oliver May (OM) – Landscape Architect, MMSJV Jenny Timothy (JT) – Principal Heritage Consultant, MMSJV Hannah Maisey (HM) – Archaeologist, MMSJV Chris Setters (CS) – Senior Engineer, MMSJV Paul Browning (PB) – Service Manager Planning Policy, Somerset County Council Robert Archer (RA) – Landscape Architect, South Somerset District Council Andrew Tucker (AT) – Conservation Officer, South Somerset District Council Sarah North (SN) – Project Officer (South West Infrastructure), National Trust Phil McMahon (PM) – Inspector of Ancient Monuments, Historic England Ian Clark (IC) – Research & Conservation Committee Chairman, Somerset Gardens Trust (and seconding for The Gardens Trust) Steve Membrey (SM) – Senior Historic Environment Officer, South West Heritage		
<b>Apologies:</b>	Hannah Nelson (NH) – Senior Environmental Advisor, Highways England		

No.	Actions/Key Messages	Owner
1.0	<b>Hazlegrove Junction – Design evolution and current design</b>	
	CS provided an overview of the design evolution of Hazlegrove Junction since February 2016. CS explained how the designs have been amended to reduce land take as far as possible and to tuck the junction into the south-western corner of the park, taking into consideration comments received from heritage consultees on the design presented back in March 2017, to reduce the environmental effects.	

No.	Actions/Key Messages	Owner
	CU explained that as part of this design, the environment team are also working in conjunction with the design team to integrate the environmental mitigation required. This environmental mitigation in the southern part of the Registered Park and Garden involves large-scale woodland planting along with the potential to re-establish grass land and parkland planting in the currently arable field.	
	IC noted the need to understand the historic parkland to inform the mitigation. JT confirmed that a lot of research has been undertaken to date to understand the historic garden and parkland and that this was currently continuing.	
	RA asked how lighting impacts would be avoided. CS noted that it is hoped that lighting can be minimised or avoided at the junction, but the assessment work has not yet been undertaken.	
	RA asked whether all opportunities for bridges and tunnels had been explored as part of the earlier optioneering stages, as this would reduce environmental effects. CS confirmed that these options had been explored early on in the Scheme, and that the skewed nature of the junction layouts ensures the use of the lowest points of the land.	
	JT noted that in addition to designing a junction layout that is as sensitive as possible, key views from the school and wider park and garden are also being looked at as part of the environmental assessment process. There is the potential to help screen the prominent view of the Shell petrol station from the school.	
	PM enquired about the implications for the existing services (including the petrol station and diner). SC stated that this is still something that is being thought about but they will likely be retained along the existing A303 which will become a local road as part of the design.	
	SN asked how habitat connectivity would be retained to avoid problems associated with 'land islands'. CU confirmed that the landscape design and ecological mitigation currently being developed would ensure the retention of habitat connectivity within the area, including the inclusion of badger tunnels.	
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Environmental assessment</b>	
	<p>JT provided an overview of the proposed methodology to be used for the Cultural Heritage chapter of the Environmental Statement. The start of the chapter would include a paragraph explaining how the chapter has been informed by both the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) and the National Planning Policy Framework / National Policy Statement for National Networks (due to the differences and conflicts in the meanings of 'value' and 'significance').</p> <p>JT explained the proposed approach is to still use DMRB's assessment tables but more as a summary, and then to also</p>	

No.	Actions/Key Messages	Owner
	<p>provide a narrative of effects for those assets that have the highest potential for adverse effects, allowing a more proportionate approach.</p> <p>Consultees were in agreement with this approach.</p>	
	<p>The agreement of the assets to be included in the chapter was thought to be a good idea by all, and would avoid pages of neutral effects.</p> <p>JT and HM to provide this list to consultees for comment and agreement as soon as ready.</p>	JT/HM
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Questions and AOB</b>	
	<p>CS confirmed that another meeting in the New Year prior to the start of the Statutory Consultation would be held, to explain further design details with the consultees. This will be held after the 15 January 2018 to ensure PM is available to attend.</p> <p>PM requested that Kim Auston (Historic England Landscape Architect) is invited to this meeting too.</p> <p>SB to set up meeting.</p>	SB
	<p>SM and PM confirmed they would be happy to be involved in any technical archaeological discussions with JT and team, as research evolves and results of geophysical surveys are obtained.</p> <p>JT to set up meetings as necessary.</p>	JT
	<p>SN asked whether or not the Highways England Design Panel will be consulted with. The team explained that this is still to be confirmed.</p>	

**A303 Sparkford to Ilchester Dualling**
**Environmental Technical Working Group - Road Drainage and the Water Environment**

<b>Date:</b>	Thursday 7 December 2017	<b>Time:</b>	14:30 – 15:30
<b>Location:</b>	South Somerset District Council, Yeovil		
<b>Attendees:</b>	Dave Pring (DP) – Wessex Planning Specialist, Environment Agency John Southwell (JS) – Somerset Partnership and Strategic Overview Flood and Coastal Risk Management Advisor, Environment Agency Dan Martin (DM) - Service Manager, Flood Risk Management Somerset County Council (LLFA) Tom Lake (TL) – Drainage Lead, MMSJV Clare Postlethwaite (CP) – Environmental Coordinator, MMSJV Charles Routh (CR) – Natural England (part only)		
<b>Apologies:</b>	Paul Mennell (PM) - Principal Drainage Engineer, Highways England		

No.	Actions/Key Messages	Owner
<b>1.0</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	
	Overview of the preferred route and key dates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• November 2017 - EIA Scoping Report submitted to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS)</li> <li>• January 2018 - Receipt of Scoping Opinion from PINS</li> <li>• January and February 2018 - Statutory Consultation</li> <li>• February 2018 - Design amendments following feedback from the Statutory Consultation</li> <li>• January to June 2018 - Environmental Statement and additional environmental deliverables</li> <li>• July 2018 - DCO submission</li> </ul>	CP
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Road Drainage and the Water Environment – environmental assessment work</b>	
	An overview of the environmental assessment work undertaken to date was provided	CP
	An overview of the proposed environmental assessment work was given: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water Framework Directive (WFD) assessment</li> <li>• Flood Risk Assessment (FRA),</li> <li>• Drainage Strategy report containing Highways Agency Water Risk Assessment Tool (HAWRAT)</li> </ul>	CP

No.	Actions/Key Messages	Owner
	The Road Drainage and Water Environment (RDWE) chapter will be scoped out of the Environmental Statement (ES)	
	Suggestion that the ES should include a 'sign-posting' chapter to guide the reader to the WFD, FRA, HAWRAT and Drainage Strategy Report	JS
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Drainage Design</b>	
	<p>A summary of the existing drainage design, known flooding issues and proposed drainage design was given.</p> <p>The drainage strategy has been developed to reduce post development peak runoff rates to the equivalent greenfield response up to and including the 1% AEP event (+ 40% allowance for climate change)</p> <p>Attenuation would largely be through open storage basins with permanent ponds to aid water quality treatment. Linear features would be used where possible to collect, treat, store and convey water as close to source as possible.</p> <p>The proposed storage basins have currently been designed with 1:4 slopes, with 750mm effective storage depth. Need for impermeable liner to be determined upon confirmation of seasonal groundwater levels (Ground investigation to inform)</p> <p>Post development the overall peak runoff rates from the A303 would reduce, although there would be an increase in the volume of runoff due to the additional impermeable area.</p> <p>JS/DM considered the philosophy acceptable. DM encouraged discussions with the Somerset Internal Drainage Board, in particular to discuss the presence of any sensitive catchments downstream (e.g. those that include pumped controls).</p> <p>DM to provide contact details for Simon Bunn (Somerset Internal Drainage Board Development Control Officer)</p> <p><i>[Post meeting note: contact details provided by DM 08/12/2017]</i></p>	TL
	It was noted that RNAS Yeovilton suffers from surface water flooding, due to the very large impermeable areas at the site which have increased without an increase in drainage capacity. The site usually drains to the River Yeo, but is unable to drain when the Yeo is under flood conditions, hence pluvial flooding occurs.	JS
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Opportunities for enhancements</b>	
	There is an existing application to Highways England's environmental designated fund (EDF) for a scheme on the A303 to change the management of an existing pollution control devices for flood control uses. DM was also aware of this scheme, but felt it would not be applicable to the A303 scheme, as the drainage should be designed appropriately so as to not require such measures.	CR/DM
	There have been discussions with the residents of West Camel to provide a flood alleviation scheme for the village, with several	JS

No.	Actions/Key Messages	Owner
	<p>options proposed by the residents. The EA has recently completed a flood model of the River Cam, which could be run to test some of the residents' ideas, with the potential for funding to be provided by Highways England via the EDF. An application would need to be made to the EDF.</p> <p>The proposal should be communicated sensitively, so Highways England's intervention does not look like an admission of responsibility for the current flooding problems, but there is the potential for collaborative working between Highways England, the EA and the residents of West Camel.</p> <p>Actions/Next steps:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) TL to update Highways England project manager (Tom Roberts) of opportunity</li> <li>2) Scope/scale of study to be developed with EA PSO/Parish Council Residents/Mott MacDonald and Highways England</li> </ol>	TL
<b>5.0</b>	<b>AOB</b>	
	<p>Liaison with other parishes should also be considered.</p> <p>The existence of local bylaws should be investigated, to see if disapplication would be proposed.</p> <p>MMSJV project management team to investigate.</p>	<p>DP</p> <p>MMSJV project management team</p>



## A303 Sparkford to Ilchester Dualling

### Environmental Technical Working Group – Meeting 2

<b>Date:</b>	Tuesday 13 February 2018	<b>Time:</b>	13:00
<b>Location:</b>	South Somerset District Council, Yeovil		
<b>Attendees:</b>	Julia Barrett (JB) – Principal Environmental Coordinator, Mott MacDonald Sweco Sophie Bennett (SB) – Environmental Coordinator, Mott MacDonald Sweco Vicky Coulthard (VC) – Environmental Coordinator, Mott MacDonald Sweco Claire Uden (CU) – Principal Landscape Architect, Mott MacDonald Sweco Oliver May (OM) – Landscape Architect, Mott MacDonald Sweco Jenny Timothy (JT) – Principal Heritage Consultant, Mott MacDonald Sweco Hannah Maisey (HM) – Archaeologist, Mott MacDonald Sweco Chris Setters (CS) – Senior Engineer, Mott MacDonald Sweco Barry Smith (BS) – Sustainable Places Team Leader (Wessex Area), Environment Agency Kim Auston (KA) – Heritage at Risk Landscape Architect, Historic England Robert Archer (RA) – Landscape Architect, South Somerset District Council Andrew Tucker (AT) – Conservation Officer, South Somerset District Council Ian Clark (IC) – Research & Conservation Committee Chairman, Somerset Gardens Trust (and seconding for the Gardens Trust) Steve Membrey (SM) – Senior Historic Environment Officer, South West Heritage Charles Routh (CR) - Lead Advisor, Planning & Licencing (Somerset, Avon and Wiltshire Area Team), Natural England		
<b>Apologies:</b>	Hannah Nelson (HN) – Senior Environmental Advisor, Highways England Phil McMahon (PM) - Inspector of Ancient Monuments, Historic England Dave Pring (DP) – Wessex Planning Specialist, Environment Agency		

John Southwell (JS) – Somerset Partnership and Strategic Overview Flood and Coastal Risk Management Advisor, Environment Agency

Paul Browning (PB) – Service Manager Planning Policy, Somerset County Council

Sarah North (SN) – Project Officer (South West Infrastructure), National Trust

Terry Franklin (TF) – Ecologist, South Somerset District Council

No.	Actions / key messages	Owner
<b>1.0</b>	<b>Welcome and introductions</b>	
	All attendees introduced themselves. JB outlined the aims of the meeting and the proposed structure of the afternoon.	
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Safety moment</b>	
	CS provided the safety moment. CS explained a recent case involving a driver who intentionally did not fill up with petrol before making a journey using a smart motorway. When the car stopped as a result of running out of fuel in the middle of the motorway, the crash resulted in the passengers in the car being killed. The case presents a situation in which a decision not to fill up with petrol can have a massive impact.	
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Scheme update</b>	
<b>3.1</b>	<b>Statutory consultation</b> JB provided an overview of the statutory consultation period, which began on 26 January 2018, running until 9 March 2018. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are a series of landowner events and public consultation events over the 6-week period.</li> <li>• A Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) report and Non-Technical Summary (NTS) has been submitted to aid consultee's understanding of the environmental impacts.</li> <li>• All consultation material including a fly-through video informed by an indicative landscape design is available on Highways England's website: <a href="https://highwaysengland.citizenspace.com/he/a303-sparkford-to-ilchester-statutory-consultation/">https://highwaysengland.citizenspace.com/he/a303-sparkford-to-ilchester-statutory-consultation/</a></li> </ul>	
<b>3.2</b>	<b>Progress update since last Environmental TWG meeting</b> JB provided a progress update for the following environmental disciplines:  <i>Biodiversity update</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) drafted. This will be issued to Natural England for their review.</li> </ul>	

No.	Actions / key messages	Owner
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drafting Ghost Licences (for great crested newts and badgers). Once complete, these will also be issued to Natural England for their review.</li> <li>• Drafting Protected Species Technical Memos (to inform Biodiversity Environmental Statement (ES) Chapter).</li> <li>• Input into the Environmental Masterplan (which will be submitted as part of the Development Consent Order (DCO) and habitat calculations.</li> </ul> <p><i>Landscape and Visual Impacts Assessment (LVIA) update</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of the landscape design and coordination of the Environmental Masterplan, in conjunction with drainage team, heritage team, ecology team, acoustics team, and design team.</li> <li>• Identification of key views to inform the LVIA. Key views to be discussed and agreed with Robert Archer after this meeting.</li> </ul> <p><i>Cultural Heritage update</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completed the majority of geophysics surveys on site and received the preliminary interpretations. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– A few areas where further geophysics surveys are required, subject to land access.</li> <li>– From the initial geophysics results, findings of the aerial survey work, Desk Based Assessment (DBA), and Statement of Significance, we will be preparing trench plans and a specification for trial trenching.</li> <li>– Trial trenching is expected to be undertaken in April 2018, with results in early June 2018.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Completed the first draft of the Statement of Significance for Hazlegrove Registered Park and Garden (RPG). This will be issued in draft format to consultees for review and comment by Friday 2 March 2018.</li> <li>• Worked with landscape colleagues to develop a landscape design which respects the character of the RPG.</li> <li>• Prepared a list of heritage assets we propose to focus our assessment on to ensure a proportionate response as required by national planning policy.</li> </ul> <p>JB explained that in the cultural heritage meeting, an outline of the findings of the Statement of Significance will be provided by JT and JT will also discuss the heritage assets proposed for assessment.</p> <p><i>Road Drainage and the Water Environment (RDWE) update</i></p> <p>JB explained that the proposed level and scope of assessment is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water Framework Directive (WFD) Scoping Assessment.</li> </ul>	

No.	Actions / key messages	Owner
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drainage strategy report.</li> <li>• Flood Risk Assessment (FRA).</li> <li>• Highways Agency Water Risk Assessment Tool (HAWRAT)</li> <li>• RDWE Chapter in ES to signpost to the above supporting reports.</li> <li>• Aquatic ecology will be assessed in the Biodiversity Chapter of the ES.</li> </ul> <p>JB provided an overview of the stakeholder engagement that has taken place to date in terms of RDWE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water Technical Working Group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Discussed drainage strategy and proposed level of assessment.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Somerset Drainage Board Consortium <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Discussed drainage strategy.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Environmental Designated Fund (EDF) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Application for EDF to support a Flood Alleviation Appraisal scheme for the villages of Queen Camel, Wales and West Camel. It is proposed to undertake a feasibility study to support the Strategic Outline Case.</li> <li>– This is an independent proposal concerned with legacy improvements to the area, as such will not form part of the DCO application nor should be a pre-requisite for approvals (as agreed with John Southwell and Dave Pring, Environment Agency).</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><i>Noise and Air Quality update</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Modelling for noise and air quality assessments have begun following receipt of forecast flows from the traffic team.</li> <li>• Noise surveys to commence after half term, to inform the baseline.</li> </ul> <p><i>People and Communities update</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) surveys are being planned, and will commence over the next month.</li> <li>• The Non-Motorised User (NMU) strategy is still being developed, and will evolve based on feedback we receive as part of the statutory consultation.</li> </ul>	
3.3	<p><b>Key dates</b></p> <p>JB provided an overview of the key dates over the next few months leading up to the DCO submission:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• January 2018 - Receipt of Scoping Opinion from the Planning Inspectorate (PINS).</li> <li>• January to March 2018 – Statutory Consultation.</li> <li>• March 2018 – Design amendments following feedback from the statutory consultation.</li> </ul>	

No.	Actions / key messages	Owner
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>January to June 2018 – ES and additional environmental deliverables.</li> <li>July 2018 – DCO submission.</li> </ul>	
3.4	<p><b>Statement of Common Grounds (SOCG)</b></p> <p>JB explained that SOCG are to be prepared to support the DCO submission. These will be prepared either for specific scheme aspects, such as Hazlegrove RPG, or for a specific consultee, as required.</p> <p>Highways England's SOCG report template was circulated around to all attendees for review.</p>	
3.5	<p><b>Scoping Opinion</b></p> <p>JB explained that the Scoping Opinion was received from the Planning Inspectorate on 9 January 2018.</p> <p>A meeting was held with the Planning Inspectorate on 12 January 2018, and the key points discussed were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engagement with the Environment Agency needed due to water-dependent Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and potential impacts on fish. A meeting with the Environment Agency to follow after this meeting, to discuss.</li> <li>Engagement with Natural England to agree sensitive ecological / human receptors. JB noted that a meeting with Natural England has been arranged for 28 January 2018 to discuss.</li> <li>Proposed Garden Village and the interrelationship with the proposed scheme. JB explained that the Project Team have agreed to meet with the development consortium as part of the statutory consultation, as suggested by PINS.</li> </ul>	
4.0	<p><b>Plan for discipline-specific break-out meetings (to commence following this meeting)</b></p> <p>JB explained that the following meetings are scheduled for today:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hazlegrove RPG – design and environmental mitigation update.</li> <li>Cultural Heritage assessment – discussion around Statement of Significance and DBA.</li> <li>LVIA – key views.</li> <li>RDWE – flood risk and drainage design (overview) and Scoping Opinion discussion.</li> </ul> <p>In addition, a meeting has been arranged with Natural England (CR) and Mott MacDonald Sweco Ecology lead (VH) to discuss the biodiversity aspects on 28 February 2018.</p>	
5.0	<p><b>Update on the A358 Taunton to Southfields Dualling scheme</b></p>	
	<p>JB provided an update on the A358 Taunton to Southfields scheme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Non-statutory options consultation is currently underway (closes 27 February 2018).</li> </ul>	

No.	Actions / key messages	Owner
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pink, Blue and Orange options are being consulted on as part of this, with the Orange having been the route presented at the previous non-statutory consultation in 2017.</li> <li>• All of the options are consistent (online widening) until West Hatch Lane, where they deviate to the M5 connection.</li> <li>• Further information is available online:  <a href="https://highwaysengland.citizenspace.com/he/taunton-to-southfields-dualling-scheme/">https://highwaysengland.citizenspace.com/he/taunton-to-southfields-dualling-scheme/</a>.</li> </ul> <p>JB provided an overview of the results of the PCF Stage 1 Department for Transport's WebTAG Appraisal (TAG unit A3):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quantitative appraisals completed for Noise, Air Quality and Greenhouse Gasses (GHGs)</li> <li>• Makes use of outputs (forecast flows) from the Stage 1 (local) traffic model</li> <li>• Qualitative appraisals completed for Landscape, Historic Environment, Biodiversity and the Water Environment</li> <li>• Based on desk studies and data searches – high level and broad study area</li> <li>• Results presented within the Appraisal Summary Table (AST) for each option</li> </ul> <p>JB provided an overview of the Stage 1 results. All results are without mitigation beyond best practice measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blue option provides the greatest benefits for air quality, noise and greenhouse gases.</li> <li>• Orange option provides the greatest dis-benefits for noise and greenhouse gases.</li> <li>• Pink option the greatest dis-benefits for air quality</li> <li>• All Options score similarly for the historic environment, biodiversity and the water environment (large to slight adverse, without mitigation).</li> <li>• The Pink option would have a lesser effect on landscape than the other 2 options.</li> </ul> <p>JB presented the Net Present Value (NPV) for air quality, noise, and greenhouse gases, and the qualitative results for landscape, historic environment, biodiversity and water environment.</p> <p>JB provided an overview of the environmental mitigation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental WebTAG appraisal completed on a precautionary basis, without bespoke mitigation.</li> <li>• Best practice measures such as pollution control measures during construction are included.</li> <li>• Measures to eliminate or reduce adverse effects beyond best practice measures will be identified as part of the ongoing EIA. This may include design amendments.</li> </ul>	

No.	Actions / key messages	Owner
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Once mitigation and / or compensation is confirmed, it is expected that adverse effects would be reduced.</li> </ul>	
<b>7.0</b>	<b>AOB and questions</b>	
	<p>The fly-through available on the A303 statutory consultation webpage (<a href="https://highwaysengland.citizenspace.com/he/a303-sparkford-to-ilchester-statutory-consultation/">https://highwaysengland.citizenspace.com/he/a303-sparkford-to-ilchester-statutory-consultation/</a>) was played for attendees to watch.</p>	
	<p>CR and KA requested paper copies of the scheme – SB / JB to send through a copy of the environmental constraints plan and the red line boundary with proposed scheme elements drawing.</p> <p><i>[Update: drawings sent by post 19/02/18 to KA, and drawings given to CR at ecology meeting on 28/02/18]</i></p>	SB / JB

## A303 Sparkford to Ilchester Dualling

### Environmental Technical Working Group –Archaeology and cultural heritage assessment

<b>Date:</b>	Tuesday 13 February 2018	<b>Time:</b>	14:00
<b>Location:</b>	South Somerset District Council, Yeovil		
<b>Attendees:</b>	Jenny Timothy (JT) – Principal Heritage Consultant, MMSJV Hannah Maisey (HM) – Archaeologist, MMSJV Andrew Tucker (AT) – Conservation Officer, South Somerset District Council Steve Membery (SM) – Senior Historic Environment Officer, South West Heritage		
<b>Apologies:</b>	Phil McMahon (PM) - Inspector of Ancient Monuments, Historic England		

No.	Actions / key messages	Owner
1.0	<b>List of heritage assets to be scoped in for detailed assessment</b>	
	<p>JT outlined that as agreed at the previous Environmental Technical Working Group (TWG) (held on Thursday 7 December 2017), a draft list of heritage assets to be scoped in for the cultural heritage detailed assessment (to be included within the Environmental Statement (ES)) had now been prepared for discussion.</p> <p>JT noted that the list was not final and where it became apparent that other assets had the potential to experience significant impacts and effects, these could be scoped in to the assessment.</p> <p>JT outlined that the principles of selection for this list included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proximity of the scheme to the asset</li> <li>• The value of the heritage asset</li> <li>• The potential for significant impacts on the value of the heritage asset</li> </ul> <p>JT also noted that where a number of assets were related to each other and were likely to experience the same impacts and effects, these had been grouped for assessment.</p> <p>The draft list includes an inventory of all heritage assets within the study area with a brief description and whether an asset has been</p>	



No.	Actions / key messages	Owner
	<p>scoped in or out, with a brief reason. JT and HM shared the draft list with AT and SM.</p> <p>AT and SM were broadly supportive of the list but asked that the list be restructured so it was easier to understand where assets had been grouped. JT and HM agreed that a revised list would be circulated.</p> <p>JT asked whether AT and SM thought that the Royal Naval Air Station (RNAS) Yeovilton should be included for detailed assessment. They thought that with the scale of the asset, and the fact that it was inward looking with modern development dominating, that a detailed assessment was not required.</p> <p>JT and HM asked whether Parsons Steeple should be subject to a detailed assessment within the ES. It was agreed that given the monument's historic association with Naish's Farm in West Camel and the potential for designed views across the A303, that this should be included.</p> <p>HM asked whether the assets in Sparkford would require a detailed assessment. It was agreed that given their distance from the main working area of the scheme and their inward facing character, these assets would not require a detailed assessment.</p>	JT and HM

## A303 Sparkford to Ilchester Dualling

### Environmental Technical Working Group – Ecology

<b>Date:</b>	Wednesday 28 February 2018	<b>Time:</b>	13:00
<b>Location:</b>	Council House, Bourne Hill, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP1 3UZ		
<b>Attendees:</b>	<p>Vicky Hollands (VH) – Principal Ecologist, Mott MacDonald Sweco</p> <p>Sophie Bennett (SB)– Environmental Coordinator, Mott MacDonald Sweco</p> <p>Charles Routh (CR) - Lead Advisor, Planning &amp; Licencing (Somerset, Avon and Wiltshire Area Team), Natural England</p>		
<b>Apologies:</b>	Julia Barrett (JB) – Principal Environmental Coordinator, Mott MacDonald Sweco		

No.	Actions/Key Messages	Owner
1.0	<b>Welcome and introduction to meeting</b>	
	VH explained that the aim of the meeting was to provide an overview of the Phase 2 protected species survey results and outline the mitigation proposals associated with each species.	
2.0	<b>Outline of protected species results and mitigation</b>	
	VH provided an outline of the Phase 2 protected species survey results and the proposed mitigation for badgers, bats, reptiles, great crested newts, dormice, birds, aquatic species, and terrestrial invertebrates. Details are outlined below.	
	<p><u>Badgers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The field surveys have identified a total of 45 badger setts within 1 kilometre of the scheme, of which 6 have been classified as main setts.</li> <li>The scheme would result in the loss of 1 annex sett, 2 subsidiary setts and 2 outlier setts.</li> <li>No main setts will require closure as a result of the scheme.</li> <li>2 subsidiary setts would be subject to disturbance and will therefore require temporary closure.</li> <li>The destruction and temporary closure of these setts will require a Natural England Licence for the scheme to proceed in accordance with the Protection of Badgers Act (1992).</li> </ul>	

No.	Actions/Key Messages	Owner
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 badger tunnels will be installed beneath the A303 where badgers have been recorded crossing the carriageway, to reduce the risk of badgers becoming road casualties.</li> <li>• Landscape planting will ensure that there is no net loss of badger habitat, ensuring compliance with National and Local Policy.</li> </ul>	
	<p><u>Bats</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A total of 31 bat roosts were identified, belonging to 9 species of bat.</li> <li>• The majority of these were small roosts belonging to common species of bat.</li> <li>• Tree roosts were identified belonging to brown long-eared bat, common pipistrelle, Myotis sp. and soprano pipistrelle, with a total of 8 trees recorded as being used as roosts.</li> <li>• Of the species recorded during the emergence and re-entry surveys of buildings, roosts were identified within buildings belonging to brown long-eared bat, common pipistrelle and soprano pipistrelle.</li> <li>• However, notable finds included a dead lesser horseshoe bat within 1 roost (although this had likely been there for a long time), and a Myotis sp. roost containing 38 bats, which was a suspected maternity roost.</li> <li>• Numerous important commuting corridors were identified, mainly to the north of the existing A303, with more limited numbers south of the existing road.</li> <li>• A potential crossing point was also identified south of Steart Wood, approximately 220 metres west of Conegore Corner, recorded as utilised by common and rare species of bat (Barbestelle).</li> <li>• High levels of foraging activity were noted in the fields and woodland edges at the entrance of Hazlegrove School, with an array of common species recorded.</li> <li>• No roosts require closure.</li> <li>• Where commuting corridors have been identified, planting has been increased to create bat hop overs.</li> <li>• 220 bat boxes and 1 bat house proposed, which have been calculated on the potential roosts too.</li> </ul> <p>VH confirmed that any hedgerows removed (which are generally species-poor) as a result of the scheme would be replaced with species-rich hedgerows.</p> <p>CR stated that he is very much in favour of the long-term resilience for protected species. VH noted that, as advised by Natural England, landscape-scale transects spread across the scheme will take place this year (starting June 2018). These transect surveys</p>	

No.	Actions/Key Messages	Owner
	<p>would then be repeated on completion of the scheme, as a way of monitoring the mitigation included as part of the scheme.</p> <p>SB to send a copy of the A303 Sparkford to Ilchester Dualling and A358 Taunton to Southfields Dualling Bat Survey Methodology Memo to CR.</p>	SB
	<p><u>Reptiles</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low and medium populations of slow worms have been recorded.</li> <li>• 1 grass snake recorded (now not impacted due to a change to the scheme design).</li> <li>• No common lizards and no adders recorded.</li> <li>• Proposed to translocate reptiles to a receptor site near Downhead, to the north of the scheme. A 6-year habitat management strategy is currently being developed with the landowner.</li> <li>• 70 days would be required for this translocation.</li> <li>• Enhancement to the habitat to increase carrying capacity include changing grazing regime, stopping of mowing and creation of hibernacula.</li> <li>• Able to take between 200 to 300 extra reptiles.</li> <li>• Monitoring of the receptor site proposed for 5 years.</li> </ul> <p>CR asked how the reptile mitigation is secured for the future. VH explained that the reptile translocation and required management of the receptor site near Downhead was required for a temporary period only. Reptiles are likely to move from the receptor site using hedgerows which surround the area, probably eventually making their way back to road verges which would have since established. VH explained that in this instance, a letter of confirmation from the landowner and securing this via a Statement of Common Grounds (SOCG) was deemed sufficient.</p>	
	<p><u>Great crested newts</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 medium sized meta populations recorded at Downhead and Hazlegrove.</li> <li>• No breeding ponds directly affect.</li> <li>• Loss of terrestrial habitat and 2 ephemeral ponds.</li> <li>• Propose to trap and translocate both populations to 2 separate receptor areas over 60-day period.</li> <li>• Creation of 2 new ponds to compensate for loss of ephemeral ponds.</li> <li>• Monitoring proposed for 4 years at Downhead population and 2 years for Hazlegrove.</li> </ul>	

No.	Actions/Key Messages	Owner
	<p><u>Dormice</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None recorded during April to November surveys, and therefore no specific mitigation for dormice has been developed as part of the scheme.</li> <li>• Planting will be beneficial to dormice and it creates connective habitat.</li> </ul>	
	<p><u>Birds</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Barn owls: 4 Active Roost Sites (ARS) identified, one within 50 metres of the haul route.</li> <li>• Proposed to close the roost and replace with 3 alternatives.</li> <li>• 10 barn owl boxes proposed.</li> <li>• Planting of hedgerows and trees along scheme length and species rich grassland away from A303.</li> <li>• 100 bird boxes proposed.</li> </ul>	
	<p><u>Aquatic species</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Otters are known to be present in Dyke Brook, although this is located far enough away from the scheme.</li> <li>• Water voles were found to be present within the ditch at Hazlegrove. Works associated with the creation of a proposed drainage pond are to be kept at least 10 metres from this ditch.</li> <li>• No protected, notable or rare macroinvertebrate species were identified.</li> <li>• The macroinvertebrates present are common and the community present is of low conservation value.</li> </ul>	
	<p><u>Terrestrial invertebrates</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A low number of rare and scarce species were recorded on the sites. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- White-letter hairstreak - UK BAP</li> <li>- Soldierfly - Nationally Scarce (N)</li> <li>- Thick-headed fly - Nationally Scarce (N)</li> <li>- Picture-winged fly - Nationally Scarce (N)</li> <li>- Mining bee - Nationally Scarce (Na)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Brown Hairstreak UK BAP; Brown hairstreak ovum were present in 49% of the hedgerows within the survey area.</li> <li>• Thick-headed fly is associated with ivy blossom. Loss of ivy is likely to result in loss of habitat locations where the fly can locate host social wasps.</li> <li>• Replacing lost hedgerows and scrub with diverse native species replacement hedgerows that contain a good range of flowering species such as hawthorn, blackthorn, dogwood and wayfaring tree.</li> </ul>	

No.	Actions/Key Messages	Owner																												
	<p>CR confirmed that he was satisfied with the survey methodologies, results, and proposed mitigation for these species.</p>																													
	<p><u>Proposed ecological mitigation</u></p> <p>VH explained the types of proposed planting, including native trees and shrubs, native hedgerow, woodland, and wildflower and species rich grassland. VH explained that the hedgerows that would be lost as a result of the scheme are species-poor, and would be replaced with species-rich.</p> <p>VH explained that a mixture of habitats was being proposed, with the inclusion of glades to open up the habitat in places.</p> <p>VH explained that there is an anticipated bat flight path over the proposed A303. Mitigation measures to reduce bat fatalities when crossing the proposed A303 in this area included planting a length of taller tree species to ensure the bat retains height whilst crossing the road. This would be further aided by the false cutting to the south of the proposed A303.</p> <p>VH explained the proposals for mitigation at Hazlegrove Registered Park and Garden, including planting of additional woodland to compensate for the loss of woodland in the Local Wildlife Site (LWS).</p> <p>CR confirmed that he was satisfied with the mitigation proposals described by VH.</p>																													
3.0	<b>Outline of habitat losses and draft habitat replanting plan</b>																													
	<p>VH provided an overview of the habitat loss (both permanent and temporary) and the anticipated habitat gain calculations. VH noted that these were indicative calculations and would be finalised and included within the Environmental Statement.</p> <p><u>Habitat losses (permanent)</u></p> <table><tr><th>Habitat type (permanent loss)</th><th>Hectares</th></tr><tr><td>Broadleaved woodland</td><td>2.4</td></tr><tr><td>Plantation</td><td>0.67</td></tr><tr><td>Arable</td><td>26.5</td></tr><tr><td>Poor Semi-Improved grassland</td><td>20.76</td></tr><tr><td>Improved grassland</td><td>16.4</td></tr></table> <table><tr><th>Hedgerow description (permanent)</th><th>Linear metres</th></tr><tr><td>Important hedge with trees</td><td>605.00</td></tr><tr><td>Important hedge</td><td>492.42</td></tr><tr><td>Species rich hedge with trees</td><td>243.37</td></tr><tr><td>Species rich hedge</td><td>247.26</td></tr><tr><td>Species poor hedge with trees</td><td>246.82</td></tr><tr><td>Species poor hedge</td><td>980.24</td></tr><tr><td>Total permanent hedgerow habitat loss</td><td>2,815.11</td></tr></table>	Habitat type (permanent loss)	Hectares	Broadleaved woodland	2.4	Plantation	0.67	Arable	26.5	Poor Semi-Improved grassland	20.76	Improved grassland	16.4	Hedgerow description (permanent)	Linear metres	Important hedge with trees	605.00	Important hedge	492.42	Species rich hedge with trees	243.37	Species rich hedge	247.26	Species poor hedge with trees	246.82	Species poor hedge	980.24	Total permanent hedgerow habitat loss	2,815.11	
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	<p><u>Hedgerow losses (temporary)</u></p> <table><tr><th>Hedgerow description (temporary)</th><th>Linear metres</th></tr><tr><td>Important hedge with trees</td><td>1,266.44</td></tr><tr><td>Important hedge</td><td>1,570.47</td></tr><tr><td>Species rich hedge with trees</td><td>834.59</td></tr><tr><td>Species rich hedge</td><td>1,617.88</td></tr><tr><td>Species poor hedge with trees</td><td>959.81</td></tr><tr><td>Species poor hedge</td><td>2,098.61</td></tr><tr><td>Defunct hedge</td><td>454.23</td></tr><tr><td>Total permanent hedgerow habitat loss</td><td>8,802.04</td></tr></table> <p>Total hedgerow loss (permanent and temporary): <b>11,617 metres</b></p> <p><u>Habitat replanting</u></p> <table><tr><th>Description</th><th>m<sup>2</sup></th><th>Ha</th><th>Linear m</th><th>units</th></tr><tr><td>Individual tree</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>32.00</td></tr><tr><td>Woodland</td><td>45,805</td><td>4.58</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Native trees and shrubs</td><td>222,171</td><td>22.22</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Native Hedgerow</td><td></td><td>0.00</td><td>6,149</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Native hedgerow with trees</td><td></td><td>0.00</td><td>4,465</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Reinstate to previous conditions</td><td>240,557</td><td>24.06</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Marginal planting</td><td>1,382</td><td>0.14</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Amenity grassland</td><td>153,560</td><td>15.36</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Wildflower and species rich grassland</td><td>49,338</td><td>4.93</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Wet grassland</td><td>22,134</td><td>2.21</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>2x wildlife ponds</td><td>2,543</td><td>0.25</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>Total hedgerow replanting: <b>10,615 metres</b></p> <p>VH explained that the habitat loss and gain calculations show an overall net gain in habitat, and also noted that the habitats that are planted as a result of the scheme will be of higher quality to those existing currently.</p> <p>VH explained that, even though there is a small loss overall of hedgerows, the additional gain of trees and shrubs proposed, do provide linear wildlife corridors which connect into the existing hedgerows/wider landscape.</p> <p>VH discussed the use of the Defra metric for habitat loss and gains. This required the use of condition assessment of habitats, which for a scheme of this size, was not feasible. CR agreed that the metric isn't applicable to a project of this nature.</p>	Hedgerow description (temporary)	Linear metres	Important hedge with trees	1,266.44	Important hedge	1,570.47	Species rich hedge with trees	834.59	Species rich hedge	1,617.88	Species poor hedge with trees	959.81	Species poor hedge	2,098.61	Defunct hedge	454.23	Total permanent hedgerow habitat loss	8,802.04	Description	m <sup>2</sup>	Ha	Linear m	units	Individual tree				32.00	Woodland	45,805	4.58			Native trees and shrubs	222,171	22.22			Native Hedgerow		0.00	6,149		Native hedgerow with trees		0.00	4,465		Reinstate to previous conditions	240,557	24.06			Marginal planting	1,382	0.14			Amenity grassland	153,560	15.36			Wildflower and species rich grassland	49,338	4.93			Wet grassland	22,134	2.21			2x wildlife ponds	2,543	0.25			
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	CR confirmed he would review the draft figures presented in more detail after the meeting.																																																																															
	CR asked about the opportunities for enhancement as part of the scheme. VH explained that Highways England's Environmentally																																																																															

No.	Actions/Key Messages	Owner
	<p>Designated Funds (EDF) were currently being explored as part of the scheme.</p> <p>One EDF application being developed for the scheme is the creation of a green bridge. CR asked whether dormouse introduction to the area could potentially be considered as part of EDF. SB explained that a discussion will be had with the relevant biodiversity EDF specialist, so this is a question that would be raised as part of this meeting.</p>	SB
	<p>CR explained that his Natural England colleague is a tenant farmer of one of the land parcels within Hazlegrove Registered Park and Garden. CR explained that the farmer would be willing to cooperate with any opportunities associated with biodiversity enhancement, and would be amenable to managing the parkland as required, should the land come under his ownership.</p> <p>VH and SB explained that this land currently sits outside the proposed Red Line Boundary for the scheme. SB explained that another EDF application that is currently being developed for the scheme is the development of a Conservation Management Plan (CMP) for Hazlegrove Registered Park and Garden. VH and SB agreed to discuss any opportunities with Highways England (as the current landowners), and the Mott MacDonald Sweco environment team.</p>	VH and SB
	<p>CR noted that Natural England have been working on a way of developing ecological connectivity, over the last few years, in the form of a mapping tool. As a result of this, there are quite a few maps available that could be useful. The maps focus on priority habitats and intervening habitats, with the view of joining these habitats together in the future.</p> <p>CR noted that there might be a map covering the scheme study area, which could help locate opportunities, or to justify funding applications.</p> <p>CR to find out what information is available to share with us, and send through any documents / maps that could be helpful to strengthen any future funding applications as a result of the scheme.</p>	CR
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other documents for consultation</b>	
	VH and SB explained the other documents that would be issued to Natural England for consultation over the next couple of months, including the Habitat Regulation Assessment (HRA) Screening document and Ghost Licences, as described below.	VH/SB
	<u>Habitat Regulations Assessment – Screening</u>	VH



No.	Actions/Key Messages	Owner
	<p>VH explained that the HRA Screening report would be issued to Natural England for their review and comment on Tuesday 20 March.</p> <p>SB asked CR to confirm Natural England's review period for this document. CR to confirm to SB and VH.</p> <p>CR noted that when issuing the HRA for review, to also include Natural England's general consultation email and mark 'FAO Charles Routh'.</p>	CR
	<p><u>Ghost Licences</u></p> <p>VH explained that ghost licences for badgers and GCN would be issued to Natural England towards the end of March / start of April. CR confirmed he would ensure resources were in place to review these licences.</p>	VH
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Update on timeframes</b>	
	<p>SB explained that the Statutory Consultation would run until 9 March 2018. CR confirmed that he would provide a response to the Statutory Consultation by this date.</p> <p>SB confirmed that the DCO submission would be in July 2018.</p> <p>It was agreed that a Statement of Common Grounds (SOCG) would be drafted and issued to CR, to sign off agreements that have already been made.</p> <p>SB and VH to draft the Natural England SOCG and issue in draft format to CR, as a working document.</p>	<p>CR</p> <p>VH</p> <p>VH / SB</p>
<b>6.0</b>	AOB and questions	
	SB confirmed that she would be in contact over the next few weeks to arrange the third Technical Working Group.	SB

## A303 Sparkford to Ilchester Dualling

### Environmental Technical Working Group Meeting 2 – Hazlegrove Registered Park and Garden

<b>Date:</b>	Tuesday 13 February 2018	<b>Time:</b>	14:00
<b>Location:</b>	South Somerset District Council, Yeovil		
<b>Attendees:</b>	<p>Julia Barrett (JB) – Principal Environmental Coordinator, Mott MacDonald Sweco</p> <p>Sophie Bennett (SB) – Environmental Coordinator, Mott MacDonald Sweco</p> <p>Vicky Coulthard (VC) – Environmental Coordinator, Mott MacDonald Sweco</p> <p>Claire Uden (CU) – Principal Landscape Architect, Mott MacDonald Sweco</p> <p>Oliver May (OM) – Landscape Architect, Mott MacDonald Sweco</p> <p>Jenny Timothy (JT) – Principal Heritage Consultant, Mott MacDonald Sweco</p> <p>Hannah Maisey (HM) – Archaeologist, Mott MacDonald Sweco</p> <p>Chris Setters (CS) – Senior Engineer, Mott MacDonald Sweco</p> <p>Barry Smith (BS) – Sustainable Places Team Leader (Wessex Area), Environment Agency</p> <p>Kim Auston (KA) – Heritage at Risk Landscape Architect, Historic England</p> <p>Robert Archer (RA) – Landscape Architect, South Somerset District Council</p> <p>Andrew Tucker (AT) – Conservation Officer, South Somerset District Council</p> <p>Ian Clark (IC) – Research &amp; Conservation Committee Chairman, Somerset Gardens Trust (and seconding for the Gardens Trust)</p> <p>Steve Membery (SM) – Senior Historic Environment Officer, South West Heritage</p> <p>Charles Routh (CR) - Lead Advisor, Planning &amp; Licencing (Somerset, Avon and Wiltshire Area Team), Natural England</p>		
<b>Apologies:</b>	<p>Hannah Nelson (HN) – Senior Environmental Advisor, Highways England</p> <p>Phil McMahon (PM) - Inspector of Ancient Monuments, Historic England</p> <p>Dave Pring (DP) – Wessex Planning Specialist, Environment Agency</p>		

John Southwell (JS) – Somerset Partnership and Strategic Overview Flood and Coastal Risk Management Advisor, Environment Agency

Paul Browning (PB) – Service Manager Planning Policy, Somerset County Council

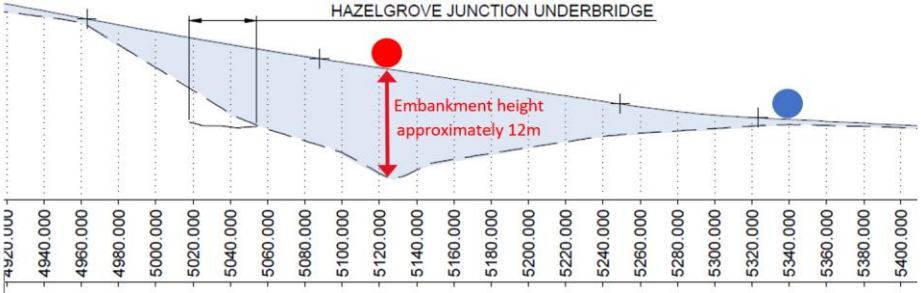

Sarah North (SN) – Project Officer (South West Infrastructure), National Trust

Terry Franklin (TF) – Ecologist, South Somerset District Council

No.	Actions / key messages	Owner
<b>1.0</b>	<b>Hazlegrove Registered Park and Garden – Historic development</b>	
	<p>JT provided an overview of the historic development of Hazlegrove Registered Park and Garden (RPG), which included the following periods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Before 1556 – Medieval Hazlegrove</li> <li>• 1556 – 1690 – Sir Walter Mildmay</li> <li>• 1690 – 1808 - Carew Hervey Mildmay</li> <li>• 1808 – 1858 - Paulet St John Mildmay</li> <li>• 1858 – 1882 - Hervey George Mildmay</li> <li>• 1882 – modern - division of the park</li> </ul> <p>JT provided an overview of the historic development specifically for ‘Rawlins’ Close’, and area marked on historic maps in the southern part of the RPG. It was noted that Rawlins’ Close was historically 3 smaller agricultural enclosures known as Farges, to the southwestern corner. These were amalgamated into the park over a number of years. The area of Rawlins’ Close was not fully incorporated into the park until the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and the work of Hervey George Mildmay included the relocation of the park entrance from this area to the south east.</p> <p>KA asked whether Highways England currently own the arable field and when the land use changed from park to arable, questioning whether or not the proposals to mitigate the junction would actually be a betterment for the park. JT and JB responded that they were unsure when Highways England purchased the land, but would investigate and whether this coincided with its change back to arable use.</p>	JT/JB
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Hazlegrove Registered Park and Garden – views and vistas</b>	
	<p>JT provided an overview of the views and vistas that had been assessed so far as part of the Statement of Significance. These included views from the front of the house and formal gardens south west across the park to the existing A303. JT noted that the services building currently finished these views, and there was significant traffic movement, to the detriment of the character of these views. JT also explained that the late 19<sup>th</sup> century driveway leading to Hazlegrove House faced north west towards</p>	

No.	Actions / key messages	Owner
	Glastonbury Tor before turning north east to centre on the view of the house.	
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Hazlegrove Registered Park and Garden – Statement of Significance findings</b>	
	<p>JT explained that a Statement of Significance for Hazlegrove PRG has been drafted by the Mott MacDonald Sweco cultural heritage team. The report aims to demonstrate the value of the Registered Park and Garden and its key components, and to inform key stakeholders of the potential impacts to the park as a result of the scheme.</p>	
	<p>JT provided an overview of the key findings from the Statement of Significance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overriding character is that retained from late 19<sup>th</sup> century design of the park. However, this degrades towards the southern end with the severance of south eastern corner and return of land to arable. Reinstatement of parkland planting will help visually reintegrate Rawlins's Close into the RPG.</li> <li>• 2 key viewpoints from front elevation of house and front of formal gardens. Kinetic views moving along the drive towards the south west. Petrol station currently a poor end to the view. Use of false cutting and planting will go towards screening the petrol station and new road. Will remove dynamic traffic views which are out of character.</li> <li>• Earthworks indicating the extent of the historic driveways survive in woodland. These are important evidence of the development of the RPG. These should be subject to archaeological recording.</li> <li>• Specimen and park trees make an important historical contribution to the character of the RPG. However, the density of trees decreases towards the southern end of the park, eroding the park land character. Specimen trees planted in Rawlins's Close will help rebuild and augment the treed parkland character.</li> </ul>	
	JT explained that the first draft of the Statement of Significance for Hazlegrove RPG will be circulated to consultees for review next week (w/e 23 February 2018).	JT
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Hazlegrove Registered Park and Garden – design and assessment work since December 2017</b>	
	<p>CS provided an overview of the design development that has been taking place since December 2017:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of a provisional Red Line Boundary to understand land take requirements</li> <li>• Development of a drainage strategy and design</li> </ul>	

No.	Actions / key messages	Owner
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of the design of the structure associated with the junction – this will carry the proposed dual carriageway over a proposed local road</li> <li>• Development of a landscape design to feed into the overall Environmental Masterplan</li> <li>• Continued assessment with regards to the requirement for road lighting</li> </ul> <p>CS explained that the scheme design is currently under technical scrutiny by the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Somerset County Council Highways</li> <li>• Highways England Maintenance</li> <li>• Operational Safety Review</li> <li>• Road Safety Audit</li> <li>• Parish Council / public feedback at consultation</li> </ul> <p>CS explained that there is still a chance to change the scheme design in March 2018, following receipt of feedback from the above groups and stakeholders.</p> <p>CS stated that any opportunities to enhance the current design and to minimise impacts to the RPG would be much appreciated from the environmental consultees. Consultees were invited to provide initial ideas in the meeting, and / or to complete the statutory consultation questionnaire.</p>	
	<p>OM explained the landscape design that has been developed over the last few months. The landscape design and planting proposals have been developed to reflect the character of the RPG, as well as provide screening of the proposed junction from the views at Hazlegrove House and Public Right of Way within the grounds of the RPG.</p> <p>OM also noted that the proposed drainage ponds would in the most part, be grassed shallow depressions, rather than permanently filled with water.</p> <p>BS asked whether the ponds could be oversized as part of the design, to allow the ponds to become more naturalised and would require less maintenance works as a result. CS agreed with this in theory and explained this would be fed back to the drainage team.</p> <p>KA asked whether the views from the RPG could be screened if the proposed junction is on embankment. OM explained that the road would sit within a false cutting, and would also be planted with tall shrubs and trees to further screen the views, to aid the screening of the proposed junction.</p>	CS
	<p>CS provided an overview of the anticipated heights of the new junction layout at Hazlegrove RPG, using the below images to aid the discussion.</p> <p>SM asked to see cross sections to show the slope profiles from the Hazlegrove House key view. CS confirmed that the design team could develop these and issue for information shortly.</p>	CS / OM to develop

No.	Actions / key messages	Owner
	<p>CU explained the grading out of earthworks around the proposed Hazlegrove junction would soften the views at the landscape-scale. SM agreed stating that because we are starting from an anthropological point, it's not a natural environment to begin with so the junction mitigation can be designed in a way that reduces the visual impact without necessarily being naturalistic.</p>  	
	<p>IC asked why the analysis of the RPG was not as comprehensive in terms of the features of the park as he would have imagined. JT explained that the analysis presented was just for the southern third of the park.</p>	
	<p>CR asked whether additional mitigation / opportunities for additional heritage and biodiversity gain were being considered. JB noted that the focus for the moment is on the essential mitigation required as part of the scheme.</p>	
	<p>KA noted that the loss of the southern third of the park and garden would be significant. JT noted that this would be a significant effect, however work had been undertaken to minimise the impact. The Statement of Significance showed that this was the least significant area of the RPG and that design development had significantly reduced the amount of land required and lessened the impact.</p>	
	<p>IC noted that there is a Public Right of Way (PRoW) that currently runs through the parkland. CS explained that this PRoW would be diverted to run alongside the new carriageway. CU noted that instead of running alongside the route of the proposed new road,</p>	

No.	Actions / key messages	Owner
	the PRoW could be moved further north, down the embankment slightly. OM also noted that this route could be enhanced through the use of planting. This idea is to be developed as part of the development of the Non-Motorised User strategy.	OM
	KA asked about the potential to include information boards within the Registered Park and Garden. JT agreed, and noted that the development of a heritage trail with associated App had been submitted as part of Highways England's Environmental Designated Funds (EDF). This would enhance the public's view of the park.	

**To:** May, Oliver T  
**Subject:** RE: A303 Sparkford to Ilchester Dualling - Environmental TWG - Hazlegrove Registered Park and Garden - cross sections

**From:** Robert Archer [<mailto:Robert.Archer@SouthSomerset.Gov.Uk>]  
**Sent:** 21 March 2018 14:08  
**To:** May, Oliver T <[Oliver.May@mottmac.com](mailto:Oliver.May@mottmac.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: A303 Sparkford to Ilchester Dualling - Environmental TWG - Hazlegrove Registered Park and Garden - cross sections

Dear Oliver

Thanks for your enquiry, and I can confirm that to date the proposal is evolving along positive lines.

I will look forward to seeing the LVIA and detailed design in due course, though no longer as a participant of the working group – I retire from the council in two weeks time! Good luck with taking this scheme forward, and my best wishes to all of the team.

yours sincerely  
Robert

Robert Archer  
Landscape Architect (part-time; Tuesday-Friday)  
South Somerset District Council  
telephone 01935 462649  
[robert.archer@southsomerset.gov.uk](mailto:robert.archer@southsomerset.gov.uk)

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**From:** May, Oliver T [<mailto:Oliver.May@mottmac.com>]  
**Sent:** 21 March 2018 10:57  
**To:** Robert Archer  
**Cc:** Uden, Claire A; Bennett, Sophie  
**Subject:** FW: A303 Sparkford to Ilchester Dualling - Environmental TWG - Hazlegrove Registered Park and Garden - cross sections

Good morning Robert,

I hope that the cross sections have found you well. I just wanted to confirm that the actions discussed in our break our session at the last TWG session have been undertaken and/or being taken forward in the design. Please find the discussed items listed below.

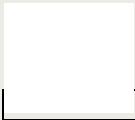
The composition of the “woodland” and “shrubs and trees” areas of planting will comprise a number of overlapping species but be differentiated with the inclusion of taller woodland trees in the woodland areas and more shrub understory trees in the “shrubs and trees mix”. There will not be a discordance between these areas.  
Feathered tree and shrub species will be considered within planting areas adjacent to the road where visual screening is desirable and this more substantial plant stock would be beneficial.  
Cross sections would be provided to illustrate the current relationship between the planting proposals and the junction layout.  
Visual receptors have been reviewed and a site visit has been undertaken to include receptors along the Leland Trail, as suggested by yourself.

I believe that this is a comprehensive list, but please let me know if there are any points that may have been omitted.

Many thanks,

**Oliver May**  
BA (Hons), MLA, CMLI  
Landscape Architect

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**Environmental Technical Working Group  
Meeting 3 – General Scheme Update**

<b>Date:</b>	Tuesday 8 May 2018	<b>Time:</b>	13:00
<b>Location:</b>	South Somerset District Council, Yeovil		
<b>Attendees:</b>	Julia Barrett (JB) – Principal Environmental Coordinator, MMSJV Sophie Bennett (SB) – Environmental Coordinator, MMSJV Vicky Coulthard (VC) – Environmental Coordinator, MMSJV Oliver May (OM) – Landscape Architect, MMSJV Jenny Timothy (JT) – Principal Heritage Consultant, MMSJV Phillippa Adams (PA) – Senior Archaeologist, MMSJV Julia Burnell (JBU) – Air Quality Consultant, MMSJV Stuart Dyne (SD) – Technical Principal (Acoustics), MMSJV Vicky Hollands (VH) – Principal Ecologist, MMSJV Katie Bishop (KB) – Graduate Environmental Scientist, MMSJV Tom Lake (TL) – Senior Drainage Consultant, MMSJV Andrew Tucker (AT) – Conservation Officer, South Somerset District Council Sally-Anne Webster (SAW) – Environmental Health Officer, South Somerset District Council Vicki Dawson (VD) – Environmental Health Officer, South Somerset District Council Ian Clark (IC) – Research & Conservation Committee Chairman, Somerset Gardens Trust (and seconding for the Gardens Trust) Steve Membrey (SM) – Senior Historic Environment Officer, South West Heritage Dave Pring (DP) – Wessex Planning Specialist, Environment Agency John Southwell (JS) - Somerset Partnership and Strategic Overview Flood and Coastal Risk Management Advisor, Environment Agency Sarah North (SN) – Project Officer (South West Infrastructure), National Trust Charles Routh (CR) - Lead Advisor, Planning & Licencing (Somerset, Avon and Wiltshire Area Team), Natural England Simon Bunn (SB) – Development Control Officer, Somerset Drainage Boards Consortium.		
<b>Apologies:</b>	Anne Halpin – Landscape Ecologist, Somerset Wildlife Trusts Hannah Nelson (HN) – Senior Environmental Advisor, Highways England Phil McMahon (PM) - Inspector of Ancient Monuments, Historic England		

No.	Actions / key messages	Owner
<b>1.0</b>	<b>Welcome and introductions</b>	
	All attendees introduced themselves. JB outlined the aims of the meeting and the proposed structure of the meeting.	
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Safety moment</b>	
	SB provided the safety moment. SB explained an event which involved a contractor on a mechanical digger accidentally hitting a water pipe causing flooding that damaged homes and submerged cars in the town of Wednesbury in the West Midlands. The water levels reached 3 metres high in places. SB explained how this highlighted the importance of understanding buried services and having sufficient method statements and risk assessments in place prior to undertaking the works, and that with the Ground Investigation (GI) works taking place currently on site, this case study acts as a useful reminder of the sorts of risks that can occur.	
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Scheme update</b>	
<b>3.1</b>	<b>Progress update since the last Environmental TWG meeting</b> JB provided an overview of the scheme progress since the last Environmental TWG meeting in February 2018. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Statutory consultation closed on 9 March 2018</li> <li>• Design development taking into account consultation feedback.</li> <li>• Cross sections of scheme in relation to Hazlegrove Registered Park and Garden submitted to consultees for comment.</li> <li>• Receipt of a construction strategy and traffic management plan (TMP) from Buildability Partner.</li> <li>• Ground Investigation (GI) surveys have commenced on site</li> <li>• Environmental Statement (ES) underway.</li> </ul>	
<b>3.2</b>	<b>Description of design changes following statutory consultation</b> JB explained the 3 key areas of design development had been at the junctions. <b>Camel Cross junction – key changes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Changed priorities so the priority is now given to B351 rather than Camel Cross.</li> </ul> <b>Hazlegrove Junction – key changes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Junction at the end of the eastbound off slip changed to a compound roundabout which provides a safe arrangement for traffic wanting to use the Vale Farm link.</li> </ul>	

No.	Actions / key messages	Owner
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vale Farm link to pass to the south of Pepper Hill Cottage rather than to the north at the request of adjacent land-owners.</li> <li>Skew of the Hazlegrove Underbridge has been reduced slightly.</li> <li>Hazlegrove School Access has been detached from the eastbound on slip at the request of the School to provide a dedicated access.</li> <li>Access to Ridge Copse and the Camel Hill Services will now be directly from the Hazlegrove Roundabout.</li> </ul> <p><b>Downhead Junction – key changes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bridge has been squared up to provide a more conventional arrangement.</li> <li>Junction has become more compact and therefore less land take.</li> <li>Downhead slips moved slightly east to avoid clash with The Spinney.</li> <li>Changed priorities between Steart Hill and Downhead Lane to provide a direct link from the A303 to the compact roundabout at the retained section of the A303.</li> </ul>	
3.3	<p><b>Update on environmental assessment work since the last Environmental TWG</b></p> <p>SB provided a progress update for the following environmental disciplines:</p> <p><i>Biodiversity update</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ghost Licences have been drafted (for great crested newts (GCN) and badgers).</li> <li>Protected Species Technical Appendices and main Biodiversity ES chapter drafted.</li> <li>Input into the Environmental Masterplan and habitat loss / gain calculations.</li> <li>The habitat loss / gain calculations (see overview in Table 1 below) currently present 16 hectares of net biodiversity gain as a result of the scheme. These calculations need to be re-run based on the final design, but it is not anticipated that figures would change too much.</li> <li>Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) screening completed.</li> <li>Statement of Common Grounds between Highways England and Natural England drafted.</li> </ul>	

No.	Actions / key messages	Owner								
	<div>Table 1: Habitat loss / gain calculations</div> <table><tr><th></th><th>Overall habitat lost</th><th>Reinstatement of compensation planting</th><th>Habitat creation</th></tr><tr><th>Total</th><td>94 hectares</td><td>76.3 hectares</td><td>34 hectares</td></tr></table> <p><i>Landscape and Visual Impacts Assessment (LVIA) update</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• LVIA drafted.</li><li>• Development of the Environmental Masterplan in conjunction with drainage team, heritage team, ecology team, acoustics team, and design team. An extract of Hazlegrove Junction was presented and it was explained that this would be discussed during the Hazlegrove House Registered Park and Garden (RPG) break-out session.</li><li>• Photomontages being developed – the photomontage locations in relation to the scheme were presented.</li></ul> <p><i>Cultural Heritage update</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Receipt of preliminary geophysical survey results – it was explained that these would be discussed with the relevant heritage consultees during the cultural heritage assessment break-out session.</li><li>• Trial trenching specification developed and shared with consultees.</li><li>• Statement of Significance finalised following receipt of comments from heritage consultees.</li><li>• Cultural Heritage ES chapter and associated technical appendices including the Desk Based Assessment drafted.</li></ul> <p><i>Road Drainage and the Water Environment (RDWE) update</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Water Framework Directive (WFD) Assessment, Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) and Highways Agency Water Risk Assessment Tool (HAWRAT) completed and submitted to the Environment Agency for review and comment.</li><li>• Road Drainage and Water Environment section in ES to signpost to supporting reports (above).</li><li>• Drainage strategy discussed with Somerset Drainage Board Consortium.</li><li>• SB explained that the conclusions of each of the detailed assessments (WFD, FRA and HAWRAT) (Table 2) would be discussed during the road drainage and water environment break-out session.</li></ul>		Overall habitat lost	Reinstatement of compensation planting	Habitat creation	Total	94 hectares	76.3 hectares	34 hectares	
	Overall habitat lost	Reinstatement of compensation planting	Habitat creation							
Total	94 hectares	76.3 hectares	34 hectares							

No.	Actions / key messages	Owner								
	<p>Table 2: Road drainage and water environment detailed assessment conclusions</p> <table><tr><th>Assessment</th><th>Summary of conclusions</th></tr><tr><td>HAWRAT assessment (methods A/B and D)</td><td><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Scheme ‘passed’ the HAWRAT assessment for both routine runoff and accidental spillages (with the inclusion of SuDs pollution control measures).</li></ul></td></tr><tr><td>WFD Assessment: Stage 1 (screening) and Stage 2 (scoping)</td><td><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Stage 1 identified potential impact pathways to 3 rivers and protected areas.</li><li>Stage 2 concluded the drainage mitigation measures would ensure the level of contaminated runoff that reaches watercourses would be negligible therefore no adverse impacts on water quality.</li></ul></td></tr><tr><td>FRA</td><td><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The existing and the proposed A303 route are located outside flood zones 2 and 3.</li><li>Scheme would provide a betterment to baseline flood risk conditions.</li></ul></td></tr></table> <p>SB noted that the team are currently progressing a Highways England Environmental Designated Fund (EDF):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Application for EDF to support a Flood Alleviation Appraisal scheme for the villages of Queen Camel, Wales and West Camel.</li><li>It is proposed to undertake a feasibility study to support the Strategic Outline Case.</li><li>This is an independent proposal concerned with legacy improvements to the area, as such will not form part of the Development Consent Order (DCO) application nor should be a pre-requisite for approvals.</li></ul> <p><i>Noise and Vibration update</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Completion of modelling for noise assessments.</li><li>Noise surveys completed.</li><li>Noise and Vibration chapter of the ES drafted.</li><li>Initial results show there is potential for construction noise to cause nuisance, however this would be avoided through suitable mitigation.</li><li>During operation, noise levels may increase in the villages of Sparkford and West Camel due to increased flow in the villages.</li><li>Further discussions to take place during the noise and vibration break-out session.</li></ul> <p><i>Air Quality update</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Completion of modelling for air quality assessment.</li><li>Air Quality chapter of the ES drafted.</li></ul>	Assessment	Summary of conclusions	HAWRAT assessment (methods A/B and D)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Scheme ‘passed’ the HAWRAT assessment for both routine runoff and accidental spillages (with the inclusion of SuDs pollution control measures).</li></ul>	WFD Assessment: Stage 1 (screening) and Stage 2 (scoping)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Stage 1 identified potential impact pathways to 3 rivers and protected areas.</li><li>Stage 2 concluded the drainage mitigation measures would ensure the level of contaminated runoff that reaches watercourses would be negligible therefore no adverse impacts on water quality.</li></ul>	FRA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The existing and the proposed A303 route are located outside flood zones 2 and 3.</li><li>Scheme would provide a betterment to baseline flood risk conditions.</li></ul>	
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FRA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The existing and the proposed A303 route are located outside flood zones 2 and 3.</li><li>Scheme would provide a betterment to baseline flood risk conditions.</li></ul>									

No.	Actions / key messages	Owner
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Initial results show no significant air quality effects and no exceedances of UK air quality objectives.</li> <li>Would not affect the UK's ability to achieve compliance with the EU Air Quality Directive. Would not affect the Yeovil Air Quality Management Area (AQMA).</li> <li>Air quality effects during construction would be mitigated through best practice measures.</li> <li>Further discussions to take place at the air quality break-out session.</li> </ul> <p><i>People and Communities update</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consultation with SCC (Rights of Way Officer), Somerset Ramblers Association, Somerset Cycle Group, and Somerset Horse Association.</li> <li>Our Non-Motorised User (NMU) strategy has been finalised, based on feedback we received as part of the statutory consultation.</li> <li>People and Communities chapter of the ES drafted.</li> </ul>	
3.3	<b>Key dates</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DCO application to be submitted July 2018.</li> </ul>	
3.4	<b>Statement of Common Grounds (SOCG)</b> JB explained that SOCG are to be prepared to support the DCO submission. These will be prepared with key stakeholders. Drafts to be circulated to key stakeholders once prepared.	
4.0	<b>Plan for discipline-specific break-out meetings (to commence following this meeting)</b>	
	JB explained that the following meetings are scheduled for today: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Hazlegrove RPG</b> – design and environmental mitigation update.</li> <li><b>Cultural Heritage</b> – Preliminary geophysical survey results and proposed trial trenching.</li> <li><b>Road Drainage and the Water Environment</b> – Review of WFD, FRA and HAWRAT conclusions, and scoping opinion discussion.</li> <li><b>Biodiversity</b> – update on ecological mitigation and Statement of Common Ground.</li> <li><b>Air Quality</b> – assessment review with the Environmental Health Officer (EHO).</li> <li><b>Noise and Vibration</b> – assessment review with the EHO.</li> </ul>	
5.0	<b>AOB and questions</b>	
	There were no questions or AOB raised at the meeting.	

**Environmental Technical Working Group 3–  
Air Quality discussion**

<b>Date:</b>	8 May 2018	<b>Time:</b>	11:30 - 14:00
<b>Location:</b>	South Somerset District Council Office, Yeovil, BA20 2HT		
<b>Attendees:</b>	Julia Burnell (JB) – Graduate Air Quality Consultant, Mott MacDonald Sweco JV Stuart Dyne (SD), Technical Principal (Acoustics), Mott MacDonald Sweco JV Vicki Dawson (VD), Environmental Health Officer, South Somerset District Council Sally-Anne Webster (SAW), Environmental Health Officer, South Somerset District Council		
<b>Apologies:</b>	None		

No.	Actions / key messages	Owner
1	<b>Summary of assessment findings</b> JB summarised the main findings of the air quality assessment and explained no significant effects are anticipated as a result of the scheme, and that this was being presented within the Environmental Statement (ES). JB explained that only NO <sub>x</sub> and NO <sub>2</sub> had been assessed in the modelling undertaken to inform the air quality assessment. VD and SAW agreed with the decision not to assess PM <sub>10</sub> .	
2	<b>Affected Road Network (ARN)</b> JB discussed extent of ARN and what the changes in traffic are along the ARN. VD and SAW were happy with the ARN for the scheme and stated the extent is as they would expect.	
3	<b>Air Quality receptors</b> JB explained that the team chose the worst case receptors / those which would experience greatest change due to Average Annual Daily Traffic (AADT) change or change in alignment. JB noted that 1 ecological receptor had been assessed. VD and SAW were happy with the receptors included within the assessment but raised the point that this designated site was probably outside the South Somerset District Council boundary and therefore advised consultation with surrounding local authorities about air quality as the ARN is so large.	JB
4	<b>Review of results</b>	

No.	Actions / key messages	Owner
	<p>The results at receptors were discussed (change in concentrations and DS concentrations). JB mentioned that results would change slightly with new alignment following consultation.</p> <p>VD and SAW confirmed results were as they would expect.</p>	
5	<p><b>Monitoring and verification</b></p> <p>JB discussed the scheme specific monitoring that was undertaken (period, duration, monitoring sites etc.) and why this had been used in the model verification (instead of Local Authority monitoring). JB also discussed the method of model verification undertaken (TG16), annualisation and the bias adjustment factors used.</p> <p>VD and SAW were happy with the monitoring sites used in verification and method of annualisation / bias adjustment.</p>	
6	<p><b>Summary</b></p> <p>VD and SAW had no concerns with the air quality assessment. The only action to take away is need to contact other local authorities to make them aware of the scheme with regards to air quality.</p>	JB



**Environmental Technical Working Group  
Meeting 3 - Biodiversity**

<b>Date:</b>	8 May 2018	<b>Time:</b>	12:00pm
<b>Location:</b>	South Somerset District Council Office		
<b>Attendees:</b>	Vicky Hollands (VH) - Principal Ecologist, MMSJV Vicky Coultard (VC) – Environmental Coordinator, MMSJV Charles Routh (CR) - Lead Advisor, Planning & Licencing (Somerset, Avon and Wiltshire Area Team), Natural England		
<b>Apologies:</b>	Terry Franklin (TF) – Ecologist, South Somerset District Council Anne Halpin – Landscape Ecologist, Somerset Wildlife Trusts		

No.	Actions / key messages	Owner
1	<p><b>Ghost licences:</b></p> <p>VH discussed there are 2 licences that are being progressed as part of the scheme. These are for Great Crested Newts (GCN) and badgers.</p> <p>CR asked when they would be submitted to Natural England for review and comment. VH stated 4 weeks to allow internal checks / amendments. Anticipated this would-be w/c 11 June 2018.</p>	VH
2	<p><b>HRA and Salisbury Plain SAC:</b></p> <p>CR asked for an update on the inclusion of the Salisbury Plain Special Area of Conservation (SAC) within the Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA). VH explained that the matter was being internally discussed within Highways England. VH to update CR once Highways England confirm an approach.</p>	VH
3	<p><b>Habitat loss / gain calculations:</b></p> <p>VH reminded CR that in a previous meeting he agreed that the Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) metric was not appropriate for the scheme. CR agreed and did not have any further concerns.</p> <p>The table within the ES showing habitat loss and compensation / replanting was reviewed and discussed. CR suggested making it clearer in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are considered priority habitats.</li> <li>• Percentage loss after reinstatement / compensation (if possible).</li> </ul>	VH

No.	Actions / key messages	Owner
	The environmental masterplan was reviewed and CR didn't raise any concerns.	
4	<p>Landowner discussions (near Hazlegrove House Registered Park and Garden).</p> <p>VH showed CR scheme proposals, which includes planting more woodland, at the landowners suggestion.</p> <p>A meeting has been arranged with the landowner to discuss the mitigation strategy on 16 May 2018.</p>	Closed
5	<p><b>Habitat management:</b></p> <p>CR asked VH how the species rich grassland would be managed. It was discussed that the information would be held within the Handover Environmental Management Plan (HEMP), to be produced following construction; mitigation measures would be secured for the Development Consent Order (DCO) submission by inclusion within an Outline Environmental Management Plan (OEMP).</p> <p>CR enquired whether at Hazlegrove for example, would this still be grazed?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Action: Discussion needed internally.</b></li> </ul>	VH/JB/Oliver May (OM), MMSJV Landscape Architect.
6	<p><b>Environmental Designated Funds (EDF):</b></p> <p>CR raised the idea of dormouse introductions in the local area. VH said this opportunity had been discussed with Highways England but it had been agreed this opportunity wouldn't be suitable as it would require the habitat to become established for dormice. Therefore, this idea has been closed out at this stage of the scheme.</p>	Closed
7	<p><b>Weymouth relief road:</b></p> <p>CR explained that a site visit is being organised to look at mitigation such as green bridges, balancing ponds for wildlife.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Action: CR to send additional site information and VH to confirm if any members of MMSJV are able to attend.</b></li> <li>• <b>Action: JB/VH to agree costs to cover this.</b></li> </ul>	CR/VH/JB
8	<p><b>Ecological networks:</b></p> <p>CR presented a plan that Natural England had produced showing woodland within the vicinity of the scheme and how it could be extended to create ecological networks. MMSJV proposals discussed (see section 4 of minutes) would form an extension to this network if NE took that forward.</p>	Closed

No.	Actions / key messages	Owner
9	<p><b>Statement of Common Grounds (SoCG):</b></p> <p>VH showed CR the draft content.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Action: CR to internally discuss role of NE and what they need to statutorily comment on.</li> <li>• Action: VH to confirm whether in the NE section, is no comment sufficient, assuming the end column is agreed.</li> <li>• Action: VH to send CR the draft template, once internally approved.</li> </ul>	VH/CR


## A303 Sparkford to Ilchester Dualling





### Environmental Technical Working Group Meeting 3 - Hazlegrove Registered Park and Garden

<b>Date:</b>	Tuesday 8 May 2018	<b>Time:</b>	12:00
<b>Location:</b>	South Somerset District Council, Yeovil		
<b>Attendees:</b>	<p>Sophie Bennett (SB) – Environmental Coordinator, Mott MacDonald Sweco Joint Venture</p> <p>Oliver May (OM) – Landscape Architect, Mott MacDonald Sweco Joint Venture</p> <p>Jenny Timothy (JT) – Principal Heritage Consultant, Mott MacDonald Sweco Joint Venture</p> <p>Pedro Castro (PC) – Landscape Architect, Mott MacDonald Sweco Joint Venture</p> <p>Sarah North (SN) – Project Officer (South West Infrastructure), National Trust</p> <p>Ian Clark (IC) – Research &amp; Conservation Committee Chairman, Somerset Gardens Trust (and seconding for The Gardens Trust)</p> <p>Steve Membrey (SM) – Senior Historic Environment Officer, South West Heritage</p> <p>Julia Barrett (JB) Principal Environmental Coordinator, Joint Venture</p>		
<b>Apologies:</b>	<p>Hannah Nelson (NH) – Senior Environmental Advisor, Highways England</p> <p>Phil McMahon (PM) - Inspector of Ancient Monuments, Historic England</p> <p>Paul Browning (PB) – Service Manager Planning Policy, Somerset County Council</p> <p>Andrew Tucker (AT) – Conservation Officer, South Somerset District Council</p>		

No.	Actions / Key Messages	Owner
1.0	<b>Hazlegrove Junction – review of final design</b>	
	<p>The environmental masterplan was available to view. It was explained to the consultees that this was still in draft format but reflected the final design and required just the fencing elements to be included.</p> <p>The cross sections produced and shared with the consultees as requested at the last environmental TWG were also available to view, although it was noted that the design these were based on had since evolved.</p>	

No.	Actions / Key Messages	Owner
	IC suggested that it may be possible to have cart tracks for the access road for the Hazlegrove attenuation pond instead of hogging. PC to discuss with the design team.	PC
	IC asked whether there would be scope to restore the areas where the driveway earthworks were retained. JT noted that this was not necessarily desirable as these driveways had fallen out of use following the realignment of the driveway in the late 19 <sup>th</sup> century. Also, that restoring the areas which were retained would reduce screening and would appear out of context. IC appeared happy with this reasoning to not restore these areas.	
	IC asked about the revised alignment of the school access drive as presented on the masterplan. OM noted that it wouldn't change how it sits within the landscape. JT noted the potential for it to create new views across the park to the house.	
	The fencing arrangements were discussed and it was suggested by IC that it was preferable to have a separation of the Hazlegrove link road and junction to the south. PC to discuss with the design team.	PC
	<p>IC noted that the area of concern was the height of the proposed bund (shown in the extract below). IC noted the potential for adverse noise and visual effects. SN agreed and said that a 2-metre-high bund, although would screen cars, would not screen higher vehicles such as lorries. OM agreed that during Year 1 there would be glimpsed views of HGVs but by Year 15 there would be no direct views of traffic.</p>  <p>Consultees asked whether the height of the proposed bund could be extended, or whether a fence could be added on top of the bund.</p> <p>SB confirmed that this would be taken away as an action for further discussion with the design team.</p>	SB

No.	Actions / Key Messages	Owner
	<p><b>Update since meeting – as discussed, cross sections were taken at intervals across the proposed bund. It was assessed that the bund would restrict the visual influence of traffic on the road for the majority of its length. However, to the eastern extents there were expected views towards traffic in Year 1. A 2 metre timber fence which ties into the bund, was included in this area to reduce visual impacts.</b></p>	
	<p>IC, SN and SM expressed that they were not content with the proposed Public Right of Way (PRoW) diversion as it was currently shown on the plan.</p> <p>IC, SN and SM asked whether it would be possible to soften the lines of the proposed PRoW, or whether alternatively the PRoW could follow adjacent to the proposed access track for maintenance, that would run to the south of the area of established woodland. JT explained that it would be the team's preference to have the PRoW route to the north of the woodland - taking it through the woodland to the south has the potential to remove archaeology associated with the historic driveways, which the team would like to conserve. JT also explained that this new alignment of the PRoW would give a better experience of the registered park and garden and setting of Hazlegrove House.</p> <p>SN noted that the PRoW also needed to be moved away from the new school access drive. OM and JT explained that they anticipated traffic along the proposed school access track to be minimal, with the busiest times being the school drop off and pick up.</p> <p>SB said that this would be taken away as an action for further discussion with the design team.</p> <p><b>Update since meeting – this aspect has subsequently been discussed with the design team (10 May 2018). The PRoW alignment was sketched to reflect a softer alignment which was then shown to IC, SN and SM for their review and comment. All 3 consultees said that they were much happier with the revised alignment, and SB confirmed that this was subsequently incorporated into the scheme design. SB confirmed that the PRoW route would not be any closer to the proposed school access drive than was previously shown.</b></p>	

No.	Actions / Key Messages	Owner
	 <p>SN and IC said that they would still like to see the proposed PRoW alignment moved away from the road. SB confirmed that both the design and proposed alignment have been informed by topographical survey data (see extract below), although the DCO submission will display a more simplified OS mapping. The topographical survey data and our arboricultural assessment shows that the extent of woodland is slightly greater than that shown on the OS mapping. Mott MacDonald Sweco Joint Venture are therefore unable to move the PRoW any closer to the existing woodland, as they do not want to cause damage to root protection areas and the tree canopies during either construction or operation.</p>  <p>SB mentioned that the team were considering the inclusion of a fence along the access to the school, but would need to present the best balance to ensure Mott MacDonald Sweco Joint Venture are in keeping with the historic landscape. Consultees were asked to provide their feedback on this.</p>	All Consultees
	IC asked what the maintenance period would be once complete. OM said this would be 5 years, and JT mentioned the	OM/PC



No.	Actions / Key Messages	Owner
	<p>plans to submit an Environmental Designated Fund (EDF) for a Conservation Management Plan (CMP) which would account for the long-term maintenance of the Registered Park and Garden.</p> <p>IC and SM said they would support this EDF application and provide comments as consultees if required. SB confirmed this would be useful and appreciated.</p>	IC/SM
	<p>OM noted the proposals for additional woodland habitat creation at Camel Hill which would help to extent the southern area of woodland further west. Consultees were happy with this opportunity.</p>	
	<p>IC asked what tree species were being proposed and at what density. PC explained the types of species proposed, such as field maple, alder, hazel, hawthorn, beech, holly and crab apple. IC suggested a 1:1.5 density of planting and suggested that holly and hazel were used in abundance as these species require less maintenance than some of the other species.</p> <p><b>Update since meeting: this strategy has now been incorporated into the scheme design.</b></p>	
	<p>IC asked what the ditches would be made of. PC and OM noted that they would be grassed, and not of concrete. IC and SM agreed this was their preference.</p>	
	<p>IC asked whether it would be possible to share the Environmental Masterplan drawings with colleagues at the Gardens Trust to understand their thoughts on the proposals. SB to enquire whether this would be possible, but noted that the plans were currently in draft format and consultees were not being provided with copies.</p>	SB
	<p>SN asked about the management of spoil during construction, noting the problems on the Hindhead Tunnel scheme. JB explained that the mitigation would be detailed within the Outline Environmental Management Plan (OEMP) and Outline Soils Management Plan (OSMP) which would be developed into a full Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) and Soils Management Plan (SMP) prior to construction, to ensure no adverse effects associated with spoil.</p>	
	<p>The consultees expressed how positively the design had evolved over the last few months, and they were pleased with the overall mitigation proposals and outcomes of the TWGs.</p>	



**Environmental Technical Working Group 3 –  
Noise discussion**

<b>Date:</b>	8 May 2018	<b>Time:</b>	11:30
<b>Location</b>	South Somerset District Council Office, Yeovil, BA20 2HT		
<b>Attendees:</b>	<p>Julia Burnell (JB) – Graduate Air Quality Consultant, Mott MacDonald Sweco Joint Venture</p> <p>Stuart Dyne (SD), Technical Principal (Acoustics), Mott MacDonald Sweco Joint Venture</p> <p>Vicki Dawson (VD), Environmental Health Officer, South Somerset District Council</p> <p>Sally-Anne Webster (SAW), Environmental Health Officer, South Somerset District Council</p>		
<b>Apologies:</b>	None		

No.	Actions / key messages	Owner
1	SD confirmed that Section 61 applications for the construction works will be drafted by the appointed contractor prior to construction.	Contractor
2	SD confirmed that consideration will be given to noise and vibration monitoring where there are particular concerns, following the outcome of the completed noise and vibration assessment.	SD and contractor
3	Mott MacDonald Sweco Joint Venture (MMS JV) to provide the South Somerset District Council with data on traffic flows (including % Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGV)) through Sparkford and West Camel that were used in the modelling.	SD
4	It will be necessary to inform both South Somerset District Council and residents of the dates of the works and likely level of disturbance but most important the end date of each activity – VD and SAW noted the importance of end dates.	Contractor
5	VD and SAW stated that a manned hotline for complaints during construction must be provided and will enable the Local Authority to direct any complaints made to them direct to the contractors	Contractor

**From:** Planning <Planning@SouthSomerset.Gov.Uk>  
**Sent:** 19 June 2018 15:34  
**To:** Back, Roma C  
**Subject:** RE: 18/00295/EIASS

Hello Roma,

Thank you for your email. I can confirm that they are all the documents for 18/00295/EIASS.

Kind regards,

Laura

Laura Culley  
Planning Administrator

South Somerset District Council  
01935 462277  
[Laura.culley@southsomerset.gov.uk](mailto:Laura.culley@southsomerset.gov.uk)

**From:** Back, Roma C [<mailto:Roma.Gore@mottmac.com>]  
**Sent:** 19 June 2018 15:20  
**To:** Planning  
**Subject:** 18/00295/EIASS

Hello,

Are there anymore documents available for the planning application 18/00295/EIASS other than the ones I have copied below that are on the planning portal?

Kind regards  
Roma

[Details](#) | [Documents](#) | [Map](#) | [Comments](#)

## Documents

Please note, due to reliability issues the direct link to download a PDF version of a document has been removed. A PDF can be downloaded once the document has been opened using the links provided.

Document Type	Date	
Consultee - Conservation Officer	15 Feb 18	<a href="#">8434485 Consultee - Conservation Officer</a>
EIASS EIA Screening and Scoping Request	15 Feb 18	<a href="#">8436050 EIASS EIA Screening and Scoping Request</a>
Consultee - Ecologist	15 Feb 18	<a href="#">8434484 Consultee - Ecologist</a>
Consultee - Landscape Architect	15 Feb 18	<a href="#">8434486 Consultee - Landscape Architect</a>

**Roma Gore**  
Environmental Coordinator

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