

news

Jones Bros and Cambridgeshire County Council: working in partnership to deliver The King's Dyke level crossing scheme

Winter 20/21

THE £32m King's Dyke level crossing scheme is being delivered by Jones Bros Civil Engineering UK on behalf of Cambridgeshire County Council. At present, the King's Dyke at-grade level crossing is located on the A605 between Whittlesey and Peterborough and crosses the railway line between Ely and Peterborough. It has long been a local issue owing to downtime of the barriers which causes significant delays to traffic travelling between Whittlesey and Peterborough.

Work will include constructing a new road and bridge over the Ely to Peterborough railway line. The level crossing will subsequently be removed as part of the programme. As with all the family firm's projects, it will be aiming to boost the local economy during construction, with opportunities for local suppliers as well as recruitment of apprentices and experienced operators. Established in the 1950s, Jones Bros' leadership team consists of members of the second and third generations of the

founding family. It employs more than 500 people. The company is currently working on contracts in various sectors including highways, flood and marine defence, waste management and renewable energy around the UK. The company runs an award-winning apprenticeship scheme, which has produced more than 40 per cent of its current workforce, with many of its senior managers having started out as apprentices or in a trainee role.

Jones Bros ecologists and County Council solve a slippery problem...

Quick thinking over newts avoids big delay

Jones Bros inspects the newt fence.



SWIFT action by Jones Bros ecologists and Cambridgeshire County Council resulted in newt fencing which prevents protected newts from entering the site being safely moved as part of the King's Dyke project. After arranging the transfer of the newt management license from another contractor, Jones Bros worked alongside Cambridgeshire County Council to make sure the right measures were in place before the newt season began. Construction manager Rhydian Hafal said: "It became apparent once we started onsite that a section of the newt fence was clashing with where the northern abutment of the railway bridge was to be constructed. "So we worked with our project ecologist and with Cambridgeshire County Council

'A section of the newt fence was clashing with where the northern abutment of the rail bridge was to be constructed...'

Rhydian Hafal

to get an amendment to the newt licence agreed with Natural England." When the nights began closing in, the team acted quickly to adjust part of the newt fence before hibernation began, in order to avoid significant delays. Rhydian added: "If we hadn't, it would've prevented construction of the northern abutment until spring." Great Crested Newts, which often live for up to 15 years and can grow to up to 17cm, are protected in the UK under the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981.

Do you have a query? Then get in touch...

ANYONE with a query relating to the transport scheme can get in touch with our team via email or by phone.

Tracey Cain is the public liaison officer and she is the principal site contact for the community. Please contact Tracey by email tracey.cain@jones-bros.com or phone 07435 548 707.

The site team is also working closely with community groups and the town council to help keep local people updated on the scheme's progress.

Copies of this newsletter will be circulated to homes near the construction site and will be made available to pick up for free at the local post office, council offices, and other public buildings such as libraries. It will also be available electronically on request.

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Rob's role is to keep our site COVID-safe

A JONES Bros trainee who started on a summer placement is playing a key role in ensuring the health and safety of the workforce and visitors to the King's Dyke site as a COVID-19 compliance officer.

Rob Rimmington, 25, from Rhyl in North Wales, initially gained experience with the company whilst studying corporate law at The University of Salford.

At King's Dyke, Rob checks that government guidelines and Jones Bros procedures are implemented and followed, ensuring the safety and wellbeing of everyone on site.

Rob, a health and safety trainee whose dad has worked as a plant operator for the civil engineering firm, said: "I already knew about the fantastic opportunities Jones Bros offered.

"I studied engineering at Grŵp Llandrillo Menai and enjoyed the health and safety modules on the course and whilst studying corporate law at university, I gained two summer placements at Clocaenog Forest Wind Farm.

"Once I graduated, I was taken on full time as a trainee. I

use my degree indirectly in my role as it involves reading different laws and regulations that affect the way we work.

"I've been at King's Dyke since August and every Friday I travel back home to North Wales for college day release to gain my general health and safety certificate. Once I've completed it, I'd like to do the NEBOSH diploma, which can lead to a masters.

"I love working on this scheme because each day is different. There's a good mix of onsite and office-based work involved and people always come to you with questions you'll need to think about or investigate."

When not in work, Rob follows his passion for football, which includes coaching Llandudno FC's first team and academy.

He added: "I'm also working towards my UEFA B in Coaching Goalkeepers, which shows a level of understanding of the sport to a European recognised standard."



Rob Rimmington as a COVID-19 c



SITE UPDATE:

Focus shifts to work on bridge and underpass

SINCE the team returned to site at the start of the new year, they are continuing to progress well at the £32m level crossing project.

After completing the first section of earthworks two months ahead of schedule in November, attention is now focused on constructing the two main structures: the bridge over the railway line and an underpass, which will provide private access to Star Pit.

In addition, the team is building the embankment on the north side of the railway line using the material that has been stockpiled in advance of the works.

Jones Bros construction manager Rhydian Hafal said: "The team on site had a very strong finish to last year, which has set us up very nicely for 2021.

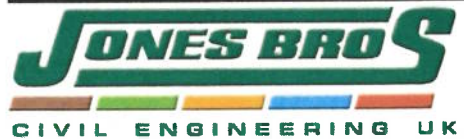
"Works before Christmas included constructing the base for the underpass, which involved more than 20 tonnes of steel and 190m³ of concrete. In addition, the piling work for the railway bridge foundations were also completed, with 12 piles dug 25m down into the clay underneath.

"We look forward to hearing feedback from residents as the scheme continues to take shape and becomes more visible from the A605."

SAFETY MESSAGE:

Construction sites are not a playground. Please do not trespass on the King's Dyke level crossing site. In addition, please have patience in passing construction traffic entering or exiting from the site compounds.

NEWS IN BRIEF



Health and safety

HEALTH and safety is one of the utmost priorities for Jones Bros Civil Engineering UK.



To protect its staff and local residents, we have put measures in place such as risk assessments and social distancing as well as doubled the size of suitable hygiene and welfare facilities on site.

Staggered breaks will also be introduced as the number of people on site increases. Additional full-time cleaners are employed at both compounds, which is also subject to a one-way system.

Community update

THE Jones Bros team have been busy raising money for charities through various events including Movember and Christmas jumper day. Tracey Cain (pictured right), public liaison officer at King's Dyke, said: "We are constantly looking at ways to engage with the community and give back, and we were over the moon with the success of one of our operatives, Gareth Hughes, known as Crow on site to his colleagues, who raised several hundred pounds as part of Movember.



"We are continuing with ongoing discussions into 2021 with various organisations in the local area to see how we can help them."

Considerate Constructors

THE King's Dyke level crossing project is registered with the Considerate Constructors' Scheme, a national initiative recognising construction sites that respect the public, protect the environment, and keep workers safe.

The first visit by the Considerate Constructors' advisor was completed in September, with positive feedback received throughout, as well as valuable advice given for ways to improve further going forward. We expect to receive the audit report shortly.

Councillor seal of approval

BEFORE the latest national lockdown, Chair and Vice-Chair of the Highways and Transport Committee at Cambridgeshire County Council, Cllr Ian Bates and Cllr Mark Howell, were welcomed by Jones Bros to the King's Dyke site.

The team showed them the progress being made including the roundabout which is starting to take shape as well as the main compounds which provide office space and welfare facilities for the workforce. In addition, Jones Bros discussed all the measures in place for COVID-19.



... playing a key role as compliance officer.

SUPPLY CHAIN PARTNERS:



From left: Gareth Hughes, Jones Bros with Craig Saunders, PJ Thory and Dan Gray, Jones Bros.

Boost for local economy

AFTER committing to using local suppliers in the Cambridgeshire area, Jones Bros has so far invested £750,000 in the regional economy.

Rhydian Hafal, construction manager, said: "It's really important for us to be able to ensure the positive impact of our work is as big as it can be, and using local suppliers who know the lay of the land is one of the best ways of doing that."

Cllr Steve Count, Leader of Cambridgeshire County Council, said: "It is excellent news that King's Dyke is boosting the local economy during construction, with opportunities for local suppliers like PJ Thory and Gemmix, as well as providing jobs for residents. These are companies who know the area well and local people will benefit from the new route, so long may it continue."

The concrete for the structures is being supplied by Whittlesey-based Gemmix. From Peterborough, suppliers have included Mick George Skip hire, road sweepers from Go Plant, gatemen and cleaners from Feden Services and a food van from Bretton Caterers. Steel reinforcement for the structures were sourced from The Roe Group and general building materials have been supplied by Ridgeons.

In addition, drainage stone came from Creeton Quarry while Star Pit stone will be sourced from South Witham Quarry. Other materials have also been sourced from Buildbase in Whittlesey. Jones Bros has also procured reinforced concrete works from Bell Formwork in Millgate, Lincolnshire.

Further recruitment has also resulted in a site agent from Cambridge joining the development as well as two site operatives from Whittlesey.

Working hand-in-hand with Network Rail



Traffic management

THERE are no plans for significant traffic management in January, February and March. Traffic lights will be required for one week during this period to allow the safe construction of a new access into the main construction compound located to the east of the level crossing. The exact date for this work is to be confirmed, and will be communicated via the platforms below.

Please note, all plans are subject to change.

For up-to-date information, please visit <https://bit.ly/ccctravel> or search for Cambridgeshire roadwork and traffic information. In addition, follow these accounts on social media:

Twitter: @Cambs_Traffic
Facebook page: @KDCrossing / King's Dyke crossing scheme

WITH the railway being a significant part of the King's Dyke project, close partnership working between Network Rail, Cambridgeshire County Council and Jones Bros has been vital to ensure the safety of passengers.

As the project has involved the use of machinery being used to dig foundations, Jones Bros installed hundreds of sensors to monitor the track bed for movement. Jones Bros construction manager Rhydian Hafal said: "We installed approximately 300 monitoring points on the railway track which are being checked daily by our site engineers to ensure construction isn't having an effect on the railway line. "The frequency of monitoring was increased during piling works, as that was a key activity that could potentially affect the

'We installed approximately 300 monitoring points on the railway track which are being checked daily by our site engineers...'

Rhydian Hafal

railway line. That has now been completed with no monitored movement at all." Jones Bros contractors had been meeting with Network Rail every two weeks to agree monitoring of the track and the design of the bridge, plus other temporary measures including hoardings along the track. The activity on-site was supervised by both Jones Bros and Network Rail representatives.

Recruiting now for key roles

JONES Bros Civil Engineering UK is recruiting for permanent key roles as work starts on site at the King's Dyke project. It is seeking applications from local people

for apprentices, site agents, sub agents and senior project engineers. Jones Bros contracts director Geraint Thomas said: "Successful candidates will receive industry-leading training with clear career progression opportunities. "Working for Jones Bros can be extremely rewarding if you are capable and show the right attitude and enthusiasm. "In addition, it's a fantastic opportunity to work on a significant scheme that is going to benefit the region for years to come. "The company strives to engage with the local community as much as possible, creating career opportunities for school leavers through apprenticeships and a range of job vacancies for experienced personnel."

To view the roles and apply, visit the Jones Bros careers page on www.jones-bros.com. To stay up to date with the latest vacancies, like the Facebook page, Jones Bros Careers, at www.facebook.com/jonesbrosuk



Programme of works

July 2020 – earthworks start
August 2020 – main site compound built
October 2020 – foundations for two key structures (underpass and the bridge) commence
February 2021 – underpass scheduled for completion
July 2021 – railway bridge scheduled for completion
March 2021 to December 2022 – phase 2 and 3 earthworks as well as highway construction works
Further details will be published in future newsletters and at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/kings-dyke