

A9 Dualling

Kincraig to Dalraddy project – June 2016



PROJECT OVERVIEW

WELCOME

Welcome to the third issue of our regular newsletter providing an update on progress on the A9 Dualling Kincaig to Dalraddy project, as well as a look ahead to the work we will be focusing on in the coming months.

As contractor on the scheme, Wills Bros Civil Engineering Ltd and John Paul Construction Joint Venture (WBJJV) would like to take the opportunity to thank the community and road users for their continued support and patience.

Site Team, Wills Bros Civil Engineering Ltd and John Paul Construction Joint Venture



Foundation being laid for the new carriageway.

The summer season is now upon us. We are eight months into the project and work is progressing well. The first phase of earthworks and drainage to the new southbound carriageway is nearing

completion and a key milestone has been reached as work on laying the new road on the southbound carriageway is underway.

This work will continue over the summer months.

UNDERPASSES



Lower Milehead underpass – completion of phase one.



Temporary work on all of the underpasses has now been completed. Construction of the first section of Dunachton underpass (west side) is progressing well, with the construction of the deck and parapet walls now underway.

The first section at Lower Milehead underpass (east side) has now been constructed, and this has reopened to local residents and tourists visiting Alvie Estate.

The second phase of construction of Lower Milehead underpass is planned to take place during the summer.

Meanwhile, work has begun on the abutment and wingwall foundations at Allt an Fhearna (east side).



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EARTHWORKS AND DRAINAGE

Earthworks to form the new southbound carriageway are nearing completion, with the remaining work to fill around the structures continuing over the coming weeks.

On the northbound

carriageway, work is progressing well with excavation and rock-breaking taking place.

Work has also commenced on the access tracks on both Dunachton Estate and Alvie Estate.



Installation of drainage on the first access route on Dunachton Estate.



Rock-breaking at Meadowside.

FENCING

Working within the Cairngorms National Park, the team are continuously aware of the biodiverse environment surrounding construction, and have erected a further three kilometres of deer fencing and one and a half kilometres

of stock fencing; with work continuing along the mainline.

This is in addition to the temporary mammal fencing which has already been installed in areas next to the water courses to help protect the local wildlife population during construction.

UTILITIES

A number of utilities diversions were required to facilitate the first phase of the work. These included diversions to BT, SSE and

Scottish Water services.

The team are pleased to report that the utility diversions required for this phase have been completed.

LOOK AHEAD

Work is moving forward and we remain on track to complete the project in summer 2017. Over the next few months, the team will be focusing on the following:

- Completion of the first phase of Dunachton underpass (west side) and the temporary reopening of the underpass
- Construction of the first side of Leault Burn culvert (east side)
- The temporary closure and construction of Baldow Smiddy underpass (east side)

- The continuation of construction at Allt An Fhearna (east side)
- Laying of the new road surface on the new southbound carriageways from Dalraddy to Dunachton. This will restrict access to “at grade” crossings. Alternative routes will be made available
- Site clearance for the second phase of work and the erection of permanent fencing
- Continuation of access tracks throughout Dunachton and Alvie Estates.

BBC'S REPORTING SCOTLAND VISITS THE SITE

In February, we were extremely pleased to welcome the BBC to the site. Ian Hamilton, features reporter at the BBC, was very interested in the A9 and the role it serves in connecting the north of Scotland with the central belt. Ian was keen to look at a number of different aspects, including the winter maintenance of the A9 and the importance of the route to the local communities.

As part of this overview of the A9, Ian visited the site to find out more about the progress made in dualling this section of the route. We were delighted to facilitate a tour around the site enabling some great footage of the work on site to be taken along with an interview with a Transport Scotland representative.

The report was broadcast on Reporting Scotland on the 9th February.



Ian Hamilton and crew with Transport Scotland representative and site staff at Dunachton underpass.

WHAT IT TAKES TO BUILD A HOME

Local school, Alvie Primary extended a warm invitation to David Peters (Site Health & Safety Manager) and Anna Kelly (Public Liaison Officer) to visit the school in February. The pupils in P1/2 were undertaking a project on 'Houses and Homes' and invited the joint venture representatives along to talk the children through the stages of building a house.

The pupils showed great interest, were full of enthusiasm and regaled David and Anna with many exciting and original questions. The visit also presented an opportunity for David and Anna to remind the schoolchildren of the general hazards around the home as well as reminding them not to play on or near construction sites.



David and Anna with pupils from Alvie Primary School.

Following the talk, David and Anna challenged the pupils to colour in a 'Bob the Builder' picture.

The pupils did a fantastic job of their pictures, leaving



Anna Kelly, Public Liaison Officer, along with the winners from Alvie Primary School pupil.

David and Anna's colleagues with some tough decisions to make when choosing the winners. Anna said: "Our judges were looking for the colouring sheets that showed

the most imagination and initiative, and they didn't disappoint."

The winners all received an Easter egg as a prize for their fantastic entries.

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NEW SAFETY NET FOR ALVIE PS

The Headteacher from Alvie Primary School contacted us regarding the site clearance along the A9. The trees removed from the area surrounding the school

had created a gap, resulting in any balls kicked over the fence no longer being stopped by the vegetation, and rolling towards the road.

Therefore, ball games at play time and PE lessons were restricted. Keen to ensure that our work did not prevent the school pupils from enjoying their ball games we

arranged for a mobile football net to be installed. This will be a temporary measure until further work is carried out at the school during the summer holidays.



New ball net installed at the school.

A WORD OF THANKS

Finally, we would like to take the opportunity to give two of our colleagues a well-deserved pat on the back for their kind gesture of help.

Whilst HBS Traffic Management were patrolling the work site on a cold day in February, Traffic Controller

Billy Morrison noticed a car parked in the northbound lay-by along the A9. On holiday in the area, and on their way for their ski lessons at the Cairngorm Ski Resort, the family from Derbyshire, were stood at the side of the road with their broken down vehicle. Billy

and Michael (Site Foreman for WBJPJ) immediately came to the family's rescue, arranging for the mother and children to be transported to the base station at the ski resort whilst Dad dealt with the recovery of their vehicle.

The family were extremely

grateful for the assistance given to them and the children were pleased to arrive in time for their skiing lesson.

Well done Billy and Michael for their help and forward thinking during what could have been a stressful time for a family on their holidays.

FURTHER PROJECT INFORMATION

If you have any matters you wish to raise concerning the A9 Dualling Kincaig to Dalraddy project, you are encouraged to email Mike Browne, Site Agent at mbrowne@willsbros-johnpaul.com (mobile 07494 534658) or Anna Kelly, Public

Liaison Officer at Kelly@willsbros-johnpaul.com (mobile 07496 739401).

For more information on the wider A9 Dualling Programme, please visit: www.transport.gov.scot/a9dualling