



Highbarns News

Update 5

September 2009

Public meeting invitation

All local residents are invited to attend a Public Meeting, to be held on Monday 5 October at 6.30pm at Nash Mills Primary School, Belswains Lane. The meeting will be your opportunity to hear all the latest developments first hand and find out what the next steps are likely to be. You will have the opportunity to ask questions and raise any concerns you might have with officers from Dacorum Borough Council and Hertfordshire Highways. At present we anticipate that the newly selected project management contractors will also be able to attend.

For those who may be unable to attend, copies of any presentation materials or handouts will be made available on our website following the meeting. If you would prefer to receive copies of these by post, please telephone 01442 228507 or email louise.manders@dacorum.gov.uk.

We look forward to meeting you on 5 October.

Highways Update

The original list of highways related issues detailed in the last residents' newsletter have now been addressed. Temporary fencing protecting the public from the works has been removed and has been replaced with semi-permanent kerbing and bollards as illustrated in the before and after photos opposite

Planters are now in place and awaiting filling with plants by the Parish Council.

However, to ensure the work is finished off satisfactorily, there are a couple of extra locations where work requested by residents has been planned. These are outside 1-9 Pond Road, where an order has been raised to resurface the pavement and outside 5 Highbarns, where an order has been raised to patch the footpath. This work is expected to be complete by the end of September.



To contact Hertfordshire Highways email southwestherts.area@hertshighways.org.uk or call **01923 257000**.

See over the page for news on Project Management

Project Management Update

We are pleased to report that a detailed procurement process, culminating in interviews, has taken place to find an experienced company to project manage the Highbarns Project.

Overall the standard of companies competing for the work was very high. All had experience of working on other mining-related projects around the country. Some had extensive experience of working with the Homes and Communities Agency to obtain funding to treat areas affected by mining.

We can't formally announce which company has been offered the Highbarns work as there are certain contract and procurement processes that we need to complete before the appointment is officially confirmed and the contract is signed.

At the public meeting on 5 October we will highlight the next steps we need to take to apply for Government funding for the Highbarns project. This task of putting together the funding application will be the first big priority for the project management company.

Given the amount of money at stake we need to be very careful and thorough in the way we apply for funding. Our application will need to include very accurate estimates of what works in the locality would cost. We need to get our funding application right first time as going back to apply for further funding later on will not be viewed positively by the Homes and Communities Agency. This will be a time consuming process.

Our aim of course is to get 100% funding for this work. It is important to note this would require approval from Parliament. Getting this approval is where we require the expertise of the project managers in terms of applying their experience of what is the best approach to take.

Information on-line

Find up-to-date information on the chalk mines project on a dedicated area of the Borough Council web site: **www.dacorum.gov.uk/highbarns**

- Newsletters
- Minutes and presentations from public meetings
- Residents Group minutes
- Committee reports
- Advice (including Questions and Answers)