Community Newsletter Update

Issue No.09

Bean Underpass

November 2026



Above: Artist's impression of the Bean Underpass as seen from Bluewater

CONSIDERATE CONSTRUCTORS SCHEME (CCS)
Respect the Community
(includes appearance)
Care for the Environment
Value their Workforce
(includes site safety)



Above: Artist impression of the Bean Underpass as seen from Whitecliffe

Dear Neighbours,

This is our November edition of the monthly project newsletter where we provide periodical information to keep you acquainted with the works taking place on the Bean Underpass project.

Erith Contractors have been appointed by the Kent County Council to undertake the works which will include the construction of a new underpass beneath the B255, linking the Whitecliffe development in the east to Bluewater Shopping Centre in the west. The underpass will primarily accommodate the Kent Fastrack bus service along with supplementary cycleways and footways.

Progress since last month:

- Surfacing works to BW Pkwy West footway and carriageway widening.
- Demobilisation of site compound in BW Pkwy West including site hoarding.
- Completion of rock netting to west cliff face.
- Continued works to establish a temporary substation next to the existing substation in Bluewater for the upcoming tunnelling works.
- Site establishment commenced by tunnelling subcontractor and commencement of temporary platform build for tunnel canopy protection.
- Installation of 2no magnetic extensometers to study settlement in road embankment near tunnelling works.
- B255 works including CCTV drainage surveys, establishment of settlement monitors for the road and vibration monitors for Thames Water and Southern Water assets.

What's next?
Works over the next 2 months:

- Installation of lighting column, sign and bollard to BW Pkwy West and surface course to new footway.
- Post & rail fence, topsoiling to BW Pkwy West verge.
- Completion of temporary tunnelling substation construction incl. energisation.
- Site establishment of tunnelling subcontractor on both sides of the cliff.
- Installation of steel support canopy tubes to both tunnel portals prior to Xmas shutdown.
- Commencement of tunnel portal breakout on west cliff face in January.
- Start of main tunnel drive from west cliff face.

Logistics:

- BW Pkwy East and West TM closures to be removed by end of Friday 20/11 in time for Bluewater embargo.
- No TM closures planned for the new year at this stage.
- Newly widened road on BW Pkwy West to be cordoned off with water-filled barriers until after BW Pkwy Centre works have been completed, planned for mid-2027.
- No closures currently planned for the B255.

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Communication

It is our intention to keep you informed and updated on the works taking place at Bean Underpass throughout our works with regular newsletters, timely information notices and community meetings.

If you would like to register to receive these updates and invitations to our meetings via email, please contact our community liaison team (contact details below).

Your personal information will be kept safe in line with current GDPR regulations and will not be used for any other purpose.

Following our commencement on site, we will be looking to arrange our first Community meeting, which will give you the opportunity to meet with the management team in person and raise any questions you may have about the works.

About Erith

The Erith Group is a family-run, employee-owned trust, founded in 1967 by Tom Darsey. The company's ethos then, as it is today, is one of quality of service and client satisfaction with a strong emphasis on Safety.

Since its formation, the company has grown to form a Group comprising: Erith Holdings Ltd; Erith Contractors Ltd; Erith Haulage Ltd; Erith Plant Services; Erith Training Services and Swanton Consulting Ltd.
Our primary business is to service the construction and related industries through its Enabling Services comprising of demolition, asbestos removal, remediation, earthworks, infrastructure, basement reconstructions, waste recycling and haulage.



Meet the team….



Project Manager
Ajay Rayaprolu



Community Liaison/Conduct Manager
Cherrie O'Kane

SITE WORKING HOURS

MONDAY to FRIDAY:
08:00 to 18:00
SATURDAY:
08:00 to 13:00

email: hello@erith.com website: www.erith.com Tel: 0370 950 8800