

A2500, Lower Road, Minster Improvement Scheme



Newsletter 1
June 2018

Scheme Highlights

- Construction contract awarded to Breheny.
- Works start 25 June.

Programme

- Advance archaeology - Jun 18
- Phase 1 Works - Jun 18 to Jan 19
- Phase 2 Detailed Design Jun 18 to Feb 19
- Phase 2 Works Mar 19 to Dec 19

Scheme Costs

- Phase 1 £1.80m
- Phase 2 £4.85m
- Total £6.65m

Why are improvements needed?

The A2500 Lower Road is a strategic route on the Isle of Sheppey and provides access to many homes and jobs. It is also an important route for tourists.

New housing is also planned in Minster at Harps Farm, Plover road and west of Barton Hill Drive.

What does the scheme involve?

The improvements will be carried out in two phases. A construction contract has been awarded to Breheny Civil Engineering.

Phase 1 is the construction of a new roundabout replacing the existing traffic signal junction between Lower Road and Barton Hill Drive. The roundabout has been designed to include a fourth arm, which could provide access to the proposed development site, west of Barton Hill Drive.

Phase 2 will be the widening of the Lower Road from the A249 at Cowstead Corner to Barton Hill Drive and will include a new footway and cycleway link alongside the northside of the road.

How much does it cost and where is the money coming from?

The total scheme cost is £6.65 million. The Department of Transport (DfT) has provided £1.26 million of support for Phase 1 through funding known as Local Growth Fund (LGF) allocated to KCC via the South East Local Enterprise Partnership. £3.195 million is being provided from the Government's National Productivity Investment Fund (NPIF) for Phase 2 and match funding is also being provided from local developments.

When will it happen?

Phase 1 will start on the 25 June 2018 and is planned to be completed by 18 January 2019, taking approximately 7 months to complete. Advance trenching will be undertaken from 18 June as part of an archaeological survey.



Lower Road heading east towards Barton Hill Junction

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Phase 2 will follow in 2019 once the new roundabout has been completed and the match funding confirmed.

How will we keep traffic moving?

The position of the roundabout is mainly off line and can be built with limited traffic management required along Lower Road.

To construct the connection to Barton Hill Drive, a temporary road closure will be required. This is planned for late August 2018 for a period of 12 weeks.

The planned diversion route will be via Thistle Hill Way and Plover Road. Some parking restrictions will be required on the diversion route to help keep traffic moving. More detail will be provided as the works progress.

Works will take place during normal working hours Monday to Saturday but some activities such as resurfacing to existing roads may be carried out at night.



Phase 1—New Roundabout at Barton Hill Drive / Lower Road Junction

What Next?

As the works progresses, updated information will be widely shared. Regular information will continue throughout construction of the works via the KCC website, scheme noticeboards and signage. Advance information, in particular, will be provided for all road closures and night time activities. If you would like to be kept up to date by email then please contact the project email address given at the foot of this newsletter.

In accordance with GDPR regulations, contact details will be used for the sole purposes of sharing information about the progress of the works . Contact details will be retained for the duration of the works contract only.