

# Badsell Road, Paddock Wood Improvement Scheme



## Project Update August 2026

### Award of Construction Contract

Kent County Council is pleased to confirm that we have awarded the construction contract for the project to Breheny Civil Engineering Ltd, with works programmed to commence on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2026 and completion expected in late Spring 2027.

### Why are we doing this work

The scheme will improve the junction at Badsell Road (B2017) and Maidstone Road (B2160) to support traffic growth from three nearby housing developments that are bringing 1,000 new homes to the area.

The improvements will increase the capacity of the junction, ease congestion, improve facilities for pedestrians and cyclists, and provide measures to help manage flood risk.



Current Layout of the Badsell Road/Maidstone Road Junction

### When the work will happen

Between 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> September 2026 work will be focused on excavating trial holes to confirm the location of buried services, and undertaking a survey of the existing drainage infrastructure. This will be followed by the commencement of the vegetation clearance on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2026 for a period of approximately 2 weeks. These activities will be carried out under temporary traffic signals which will be manually controlled at peak times to manage the flow of traffic through the junction.

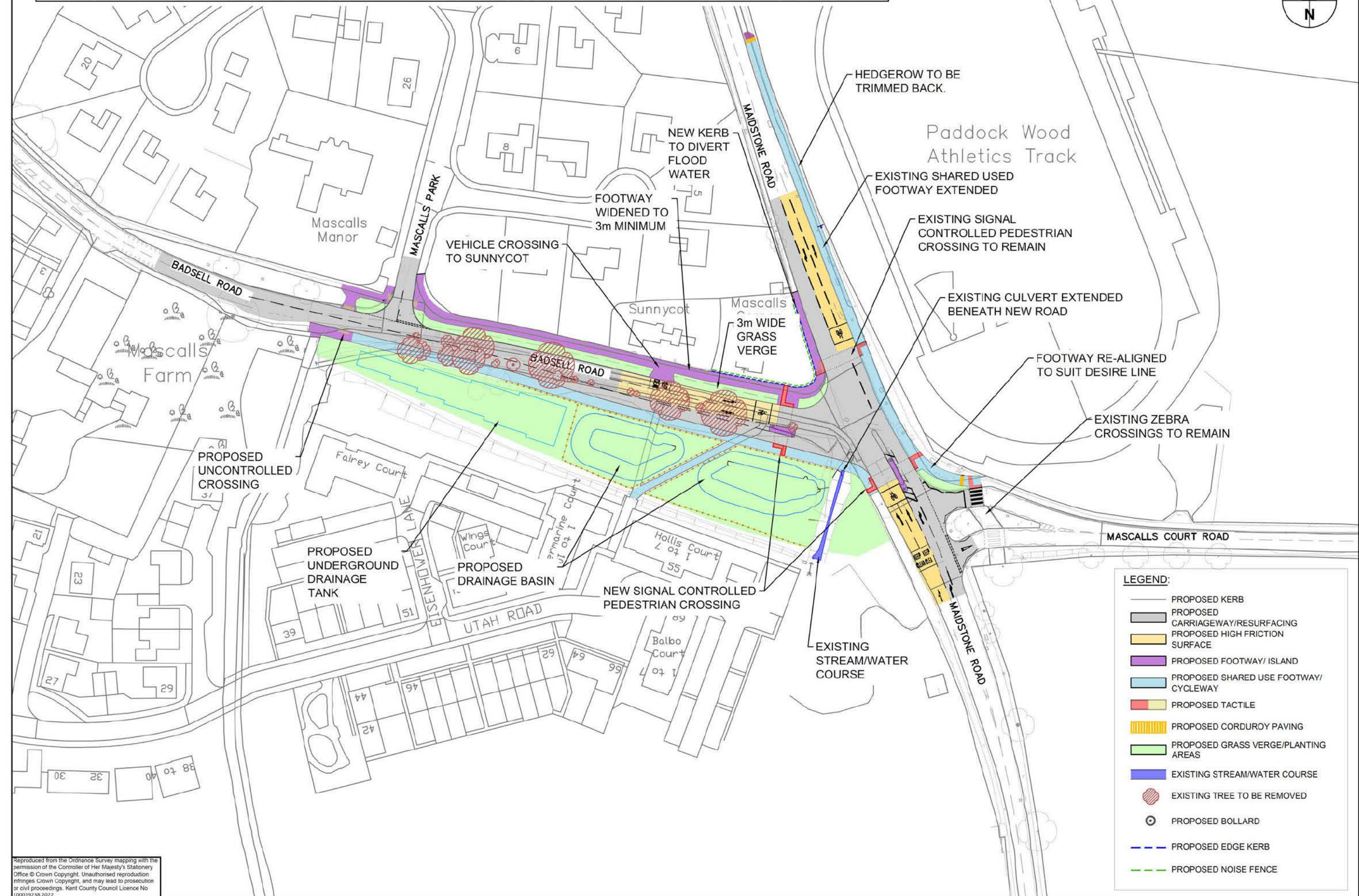
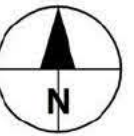
The vegetation along Badsell Road has been identified as a potential habitat for hazel dormice, which are a protected species. Before any work that could affect their habitat can take place, a licence must be obtained by Natural England. A condition of this licence, which KCC has secured, means work cannot start until mid-September. Whilst this has impacted our ability to start the project earlier in the school holidays it is important that we follow all the necessary environmental legislation and adhere to the approved licence.

Once the vegetation has been cleared works will commence on constructing the new road and footway on the southern side of Badsell Road. This work will take place offline, away from the existing road, which means that this stage of the works, lasting a few weeks, can largely be carried out while the junction continues to operate normally under the existing traffic signals.

For the safety of pedestrians we will be closing the existing footway and the Public Right of Way (WT268) that connect Utah Way with Badsell Road. Clearly signed diversion routes will be provided for pedestrians via Morgan Way.

Details of subsequent phases of works will be shared in subsequent newsletters.

# B2017 BADSELL ROAD/B2160 MAIDSTONE ROAD - JUNCTION IMPROVEMENT



## What the scheme involves

The Badsell Road project upgrades the junction. This will be achieved by realigning and widening the existing Badsell Road and once completed will:

- Provide two approach lanes on Badsell Road at the Maidstone Road junction.
- Widen the existing footway along the north side of Badsell Road and provide a new roadside verge.
- Create a new shared footway and cycle route on the south side of Badsell Road, including a direct connection to the new housing development and the existing Public Right of Way WT268.
- Extend and improve the existing shared footway and cycle route along Maidstone Road.
- Provide new traffic lights at the junction, together with improved pedestrian crossings and a new crossing on Badsell Road.
- Provide flood mitigation basins and an underground storage area to help manage the flood risk.
- Include new landscaping and tree planting to replace trees and dormouse habitat lost as part of the works.

## How will we keep traffic moving

During the works disruption and delays will be inevitable but we will try to minimise this where possible. Safety for the workforce, pedestrians and motorists is paramount in carrying out the works and as we will be working in a constrained environment it will be necessary to undertake much of the works using temporary traffic signals. These will be manually controlled at busy times to keep traffic flowing.

Road closures will be required at certain stages of the works with a week-long closure of Badsell Road required in the autumn to carry out utility diversions and to rebuild parts of the existing road. Night-time closures of Badsell Road, Maidstone Road and Mascalls Court Road will also be required in the spring to enable the final surfacing works to be completed. Details of each road closure and any major traffic management change will be shared with all stakeholders in advance.

Pedestrian routes will be maintained through the works at all times, although it may be necessary to divert pedestrians onto alternative routes during the different phases of the works. Works in the vicinity of the Leigh Academy Mascalls will be managed to ensure unhindered access for students.

## How to contact us

Breheny will have a Public Liaison Officer (PLO), Emma Bates, available for day-to-day queries about the project and she can be contacted via email or phone as follows:

**Email:** [badsellroad@breheny.co.uk](mailto:badsellroad@breheny.co.uk)

**Phone:** 07976 367359 (09.00 to 17.00 Mon-Fri)

A project website has been set up, [www.badsellroad.co.uk](http://www.badsellroad.co.uk), which will provide regular updates on the project. Stakeholders are able to register their contact details on the website if they wish to receive regular updates via email.

Alternatively, you can contact the Kent County Council's project team via email at [badsellroad@kent.gov.uk](mailto:badsellroad@kent.gov.uk)