

# North Devon Link Road (NDLR) (Portmore to Borners Bridge)

## Newsletter 5 (November 2021)

### Works Progress

Since our last newsletter and the implementation of road closures to install the temporary safety barriers along most of the area between Portmore and Borners Bridge, we have again had to focus on ground clearance that began in January up until the bird nesting season. We have a number of ecological constraints to seasonally negotiate and now are in the process of stump removal and mulching along the areas where the extra lane will be constructed (a large mulcher at work below).



We have continued constructing our haul road that will allow trucks to remove soil and deliver stone and safely enter the carriageway during construction of the new carriageway. Over the next few weeks, we will:

- Continue Single Stage Vegetation Clearance along Sections 2 & 3 – Harford to Swimbridge & Swimbridge to Filleigh
- Commence Single Stage Vegetation Clearance along Section 1a – Portmore to Landkey
- Part waterproof Mill Stream culvert and temporary surfacing within TM central section at Borners Bridge
- Implement Stage 2 Traffic Management at Borners Bridge
- Continue with on-site surveys to inform the design
- Ongoing design works
- Ongoing resource procurement and mobilisation

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For all Traffic related matters 24/7 call  
Traffic Safety Control Officer (TSCO)

Tel: 07889 225393\*

Your Public Liaison Officer for the NDLR  
is Lynda Sudlow of Griffiths. She can be  
contacted.

E: [NDLR@alungriffiths.co.uk](mailto:NDLR@alungriffiths.co.uk)

T: 0330 041 4637\*

\* Calls to these numbers are charged at  
national call rates and included in  
inclusive minute plans from landlines  
and mobiles

Calls are monitored out of normal work  
hours and a voicemail facility is  
available.

Please check out our project website

[community.alungriffiths.co.uk](http://community.alungriffiths.co.uk)

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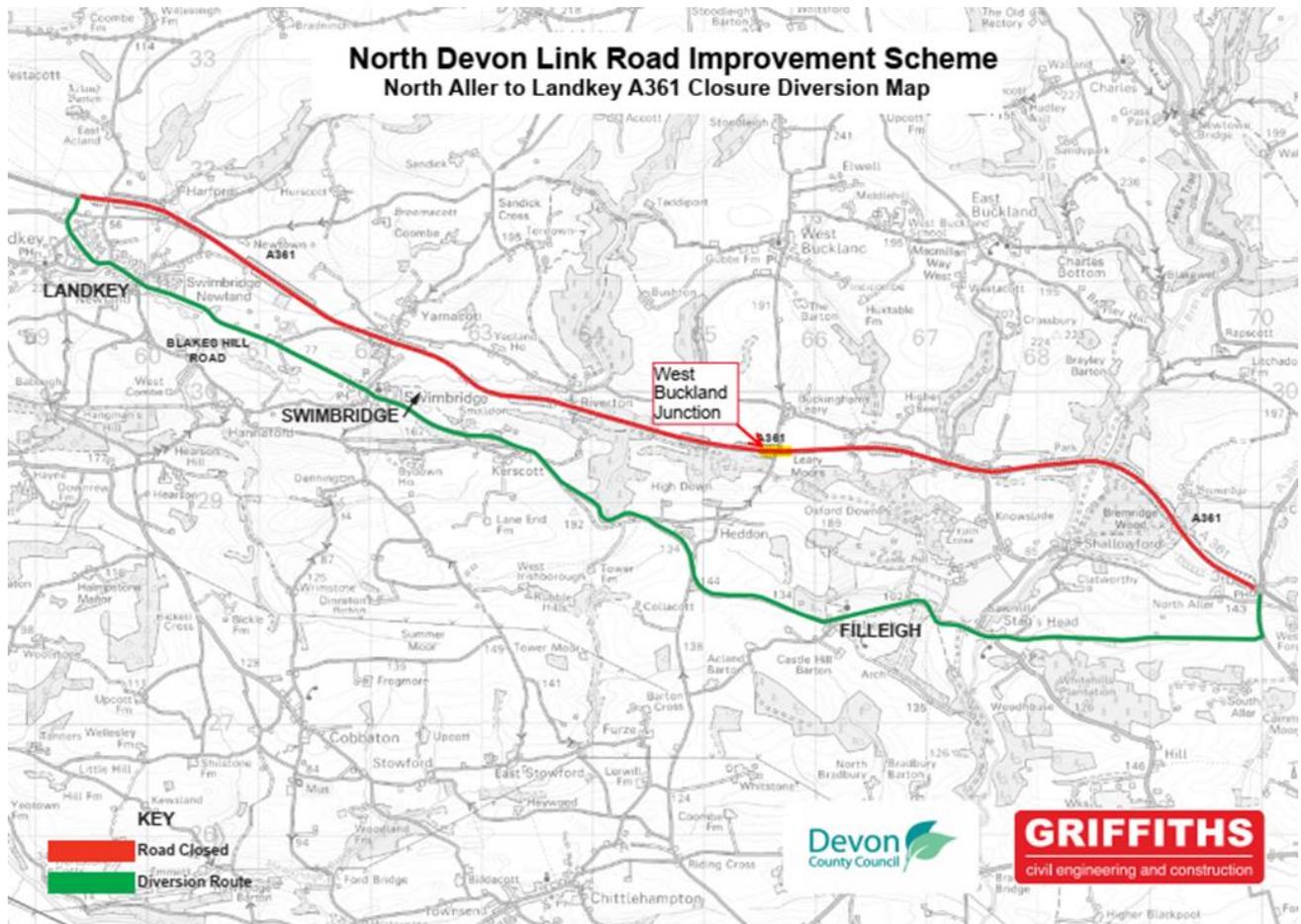
# Upcoming Work and Short Night Closures and Diversions

## Landkey Junction

A further **one-night closure** of the A361 is necessary for some repairs to white lining and road studs. An additional 70m of temporary barriers is also required near Landkey Junction.

Due to the lining element this is weather dependant. **The closure date is Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November, and the closure will only be between 10pm - 2am on one night between Landkey Junction and North Aller Roundabout.**

We shall be monitoring the weather forecast and road signage will indicate confirmation of this date of closure nearer the time. Traffic will be diverted via the usual route from Landkey to North Aller Roundabout.



## Traffic Management Update (TM)

We have listened to complaints from motorists using the A361 and a decision has been made to **remove the 40mph speed restrictions in two areas.**

1. The stretch between **Bish Mill Roundabout** to our Traffic Management 800 Yards east of our Borners Bridge Junction works area will return to the National Speed Limit of 60mph as previously. This will apply to traffic leaving and approaching the site in both directions (already removed). **The 40mph limit will continue as signed through our works area at Borners Bridge Junction**
2. The stretch between **North Aller Roundabout** to our Traffic Management 800 Yards east of our West Buckland Junction works area (near the River Brae Viaduct) will return to National Speed Limit of 60mph as previously. This will apply to traffic leaving and approaching the site in both directions (being removed end of November). **The 40mph limit will continue as signed through our works area at West Buckland Junction.**

Please observe the speed limit within the works areas from Portmore down to Borners Bridge. It is for your safety and that of our work force. Police attendance for speed checks has started and will continue on a regular basis. ***Frustration of road works is no defence to speeding offences. WE have listened to YOU now please help us keep everyone SAFE!***



## Abnormal Loads

The summer months have gone but Abnormal Loads continue to use the NDLR. We have previously explained how we manage such loads escorted through our works area through the narrowed lanes of our traffic management by our Traffic Safety Control Officers during agreed times of day.

The winter months provide a different challenge to manage these with limited daylight hours we can only escort them between **1000 and 1430 hrs during weekdays** avoiding school arrival and leaving times and complying with the national Police embargo preventing movement during hours of darkness and at weekends.

Abnormal Loads sometimes arrive upon us without announcement and we must implement the diversion between North Aller Roundabout and Landkey Junction at short notice, with the opposing traffic to the loads direction only following the diversion for the 20 -30 minutes it takes to escort it along the A361 between these points.

We have deployed a temporary sign at West Buckland Village to inform drivers who may wish to take an alternative route before finding the junction closed during these occurrences.

## Employment

Griffiths have employed many local workers on this project. Engineers, surveyors, groundworkers and office staff. This is in addition to our supply chain of local companies.

On Monday 27<sup>th</sup> September Griffiths Site Agent Jess Barker attended a Jobs Fair in Barnstaple and received 20 CV's from prospective local employees.

Griffiths as part of the Tarmac Group have many opportunities available throughout the South West and can be viewed via this link. [Jobs and careers with Tarmac](#)



## Environmental News

### HVO Fuel

Griffiths is in the process of trialling and rolling out HVO Fuel (Green Diesel). Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) is marketed by Nestle Oil as 'the highest quality diesel in the world'. HVO is a zero-emissions diesel using hydrogen not methanol which fully supports our Carbon Reduction initiative.

HVO is becoming more popular with an increasing number of businesses investing in the new technology globally. Griffiths are one of the first companies in the UK to invest in HVO.

Griffiths are currently implementing the trial of HVO on our North Devon Link Road, with an aim to roll out to 50% of our sites by Christmas this year, and the remaining 50% by end of March 2022



### Our Journey to Net Zero Carbon – Introducing our EV Vans

This week we introduced a fleet of electric vans into the business. This has followed the introduction of Electric Site Vehicles and we will soon be welcoming a number of Electric Cars for our staff. We are having two Electric vehicles on the NDLR.

This investment is central to our commitment to achieve Net Zero Carbon which will be outlined in our new Sustainability Strategy that will be released very soon.



## New PLO Introduction

A new Public Liaison Officer local to Devon has been employed on the project. Lynda Sudlow began on 1<sup>st</sup> November and will see the project through to completion. She will take over all community engagement including newsletters and website updates.

All email and telephone contact details remain the same.

Please remember, for all Traffic Emergency incidents relating to our Traffic Management contact our TCSO's on 07889 225393 who are on site 24/7.



## Community Involvement- Tortoise Rescued

The Section Foreman, Matt Budd noticed a tortoise in the middle of the A361 and pulled over to rescue him. Then came mission of trying to find the owner as he was miles away from any houses. Posts were put on social media groups etc. In the meantime, Matt and his family looked after the tortoise. Following our team effort, we then found a "Tortoise missing" post in a different Facebook group and Matt was able to reunite the Tortoise with her owner.



By this point, the Budd family had well and truly fallen in love with the tortoise...so the following weekend they went out and got their own Tortoise named 'Hilda' to their family.

## Christmas

### Construction Industry Christmas Shut Down Period

End of the day Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> December, returning Tuesday 4th January 2022.

All existing Traffic Management including Steel Barriers and 40mph speed restrictions will be in place and will be monitored and maintained throughout the holiday period.

**Thank you for your continued patience and apologies for any inconvenience.**



Department  
for Transport

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You can get in touch via our web site [community.alungriffiths.co.uk](http://community.alungriffiths.co.uk) or by contacting our Public Liaison Officer Lynda Sudlow on 0330 041 4637\* or [NDLR@alungriffiths.co.uk](mailto:NDLR@alungriffiths.co.uk)

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