

Here is a summary of the meeting we had on 15 December 2020

Present at the meeting were representatives from:

NothRA, NML, Netherne, Surrey County Council, Network Rail, BAM

Following introductions, BAM opened the meeting by explaining why the work is required, and the risks if it is not carried out (bank slippage and months of train closures, as well as potential to destabilize gas mains leading to Netherne being cut off from Gas network for months). Although the lane closure will aid with getting materials and staff to the site, this was not an influencing factor in the decision.

Bob (SCC) raised the issue that no appropriate contact had been made with relevant stakeholders (himself, Netherne residents), and that instead dialogue appeared to have occurred with the incorrect council officers.

BAM explained the following:

Work will be carried out 5 days a week during normal working hours (8am - 6pm). Because the work is specialist contractors, having more than 1 shift is not a workable solution for BAM.

Work is scheduled to last 12 weeks, with any overrun costing BAM financially so they are keen to finish sooner. The time taken to remove and reapply the traffic management means it will remain in place 24/7 for the 12 weeks.

While the work is taking place the gas network will be onsite to do some sampling and planning for their future works (Yes the drive may well be shut again at some point!). BAM confirmed there is no option for the gas works to be completed at the same time due to the nature of both projects.

No traffic monitoring was completed to understand the impact on Netherne, although modelling software was utilized. The model worked on the assumption that there are 800 vehicle movements a day in Netherne which feels like a massive underestimate.

No contact had been made with emergency services, refuse collection, school, or any other 3rd parties in the planning of these works. That said BAM will accommodate emergency services as/when required as a priority.

We raised the concern about residents having to right turn onto the A23 at Starbucks and how this detour was both dangerous and can take 20-30 minutes in rush hour (not the 7 minutes quoted). Roz (NothRA) requested BAM provide traffic management personnel to assist at the junction. BAM suggested they would monitor it and act if required. There is a concern that the issue is just being moved from 1 junction to another!

We raised a point about the terrible map design that was both misleading and incorrect. Would network rail consider issuing an apology for the confusion caused, and a subsequent clarification (once the final plan is agreed)?

Bob shared information on the 3 initial plans that were considered (BAM also raised this point), and the proposed plan was modelled to be the best from a traffic management perspective. The lane closure on Netherne drive is to enable the lights at the junction to be disabled and southbound traffic to flow better.

We all raised the concern about the ice and snow in the winter often making both Netherne Lane and Woodplace Lane unusable. BAM said they have provided gritting services in the past to mitigate risks like these.

We raised the concern about large goods vehicles entering Netherne from the main drive but potentially being unable to leave. BAM will explore narrowing the drive and appropriate signage to stop said vehicles entering. No decision was made on this as yet. We raised the specific concern about school coaches using Netherne Drive to pick up and drop children at local schools. BAM suggested they may be able to facilitate the buses leaving via Netherne Drive as a special case.

We raised the concern that by making Netherne Lane 1 way, the advised diversion was actually forcing anybody wishing to enter Netherne from Redhill/Reigate/Chaldon/M23/etc. to drive up to Coulsdon, round the roundabout and then join the traffic jam on the a23 (the very traffic jam the Netherne Drive closure is trying to avoid).

We raised the concern about potholes and general state of the repair of both Netherne Lane and Woodplace Lane. BAM to consider remediation work.

We recommend to any residents wishing to head north on A23, or towards Hooley that using Woodplace Lane would be preferable.

#### Actions from meeting:

- BAM to consider providing a gritter to grit Woodplace Lane and Netherne lane/Dean lane on a daily/nightly basis.
- Nothra/NML to collect information on the coaches using Netherne and the impact of the road closure on them.
- Nothra/NML to collect information on the residents currently using Netherne Lane to take their kids to school (and return afterwards).
- Nothra/NML to provide a map highlighting where the repair of the road (filling of potholes) is required in advance of the works.
- BAM to provide information on alternative option of leaving Netherne Lane as 2 ways and it's modelled traffic flow impact.

In summary, a productive meeting and good to meet the BAM team involved. We expressed our disappointment that it hadn't happened over the past 4 months since the original work was planned. We felt they listened to our concerns and were keen to work with us to find the best possible solution.