

Site Clearance at Leather Lane

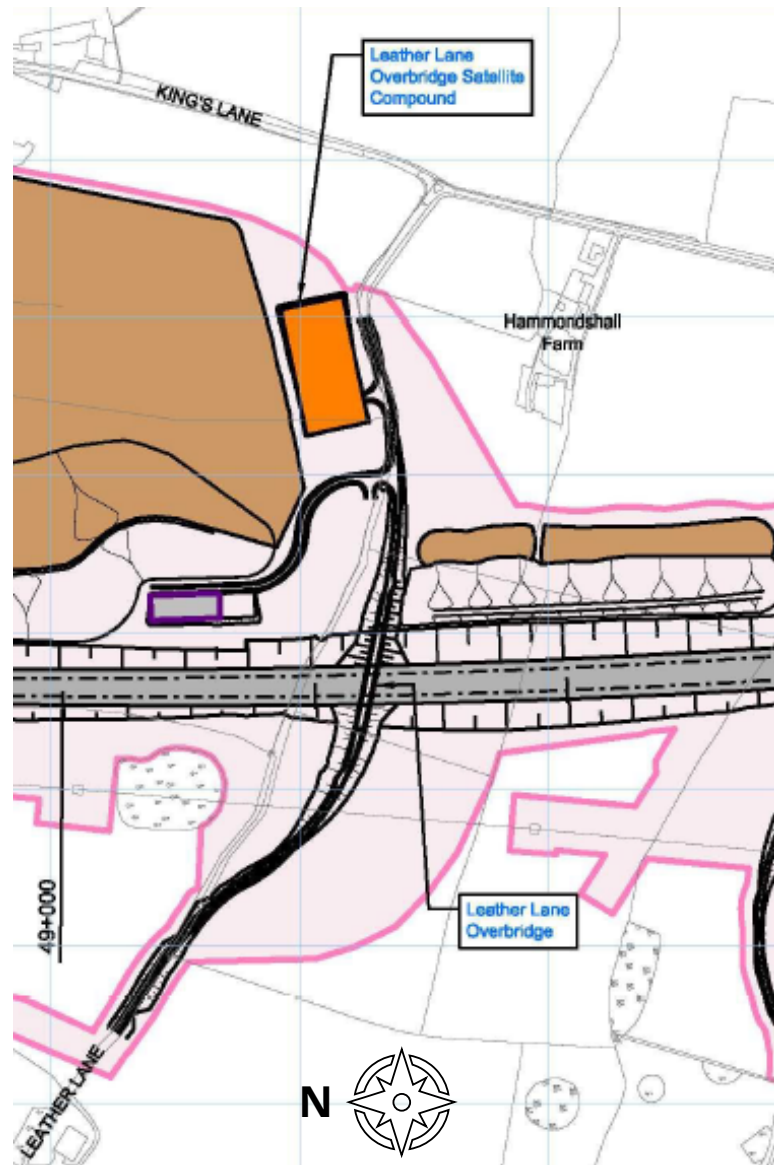
March 2021

1MC12-EKF-SE-PRE-CS03-000008 P01

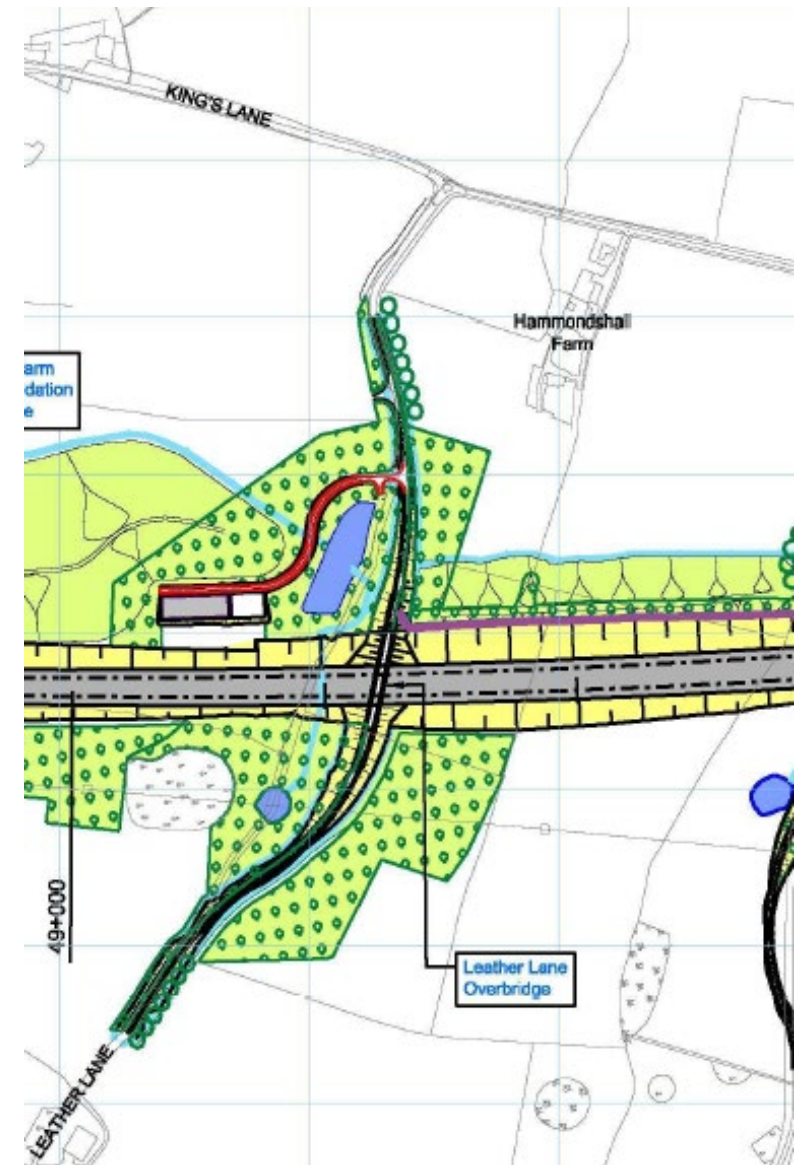
Environmental Statement

It is intended that as many trees are retained as reasonably practicable through careful management of construction. However, there will remain an impact on them as the realignment [of the road] will have to pass through the row of trees at two points.

The approaches to the bridge will be planted to integrate the structure into the landscape and maintain and enhance existing habitat links across the route for bats and other wildlife.



Construction Phase



Operational Phase

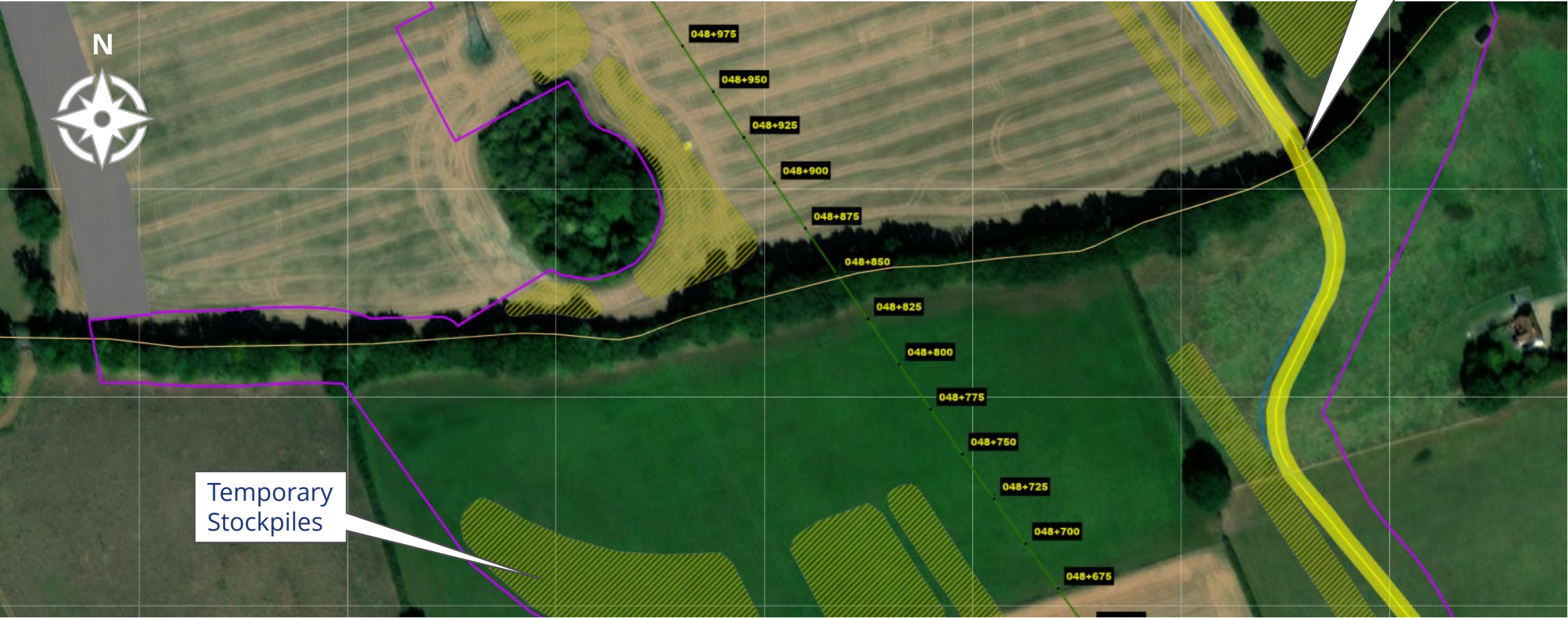
Existing

Act Limits ---



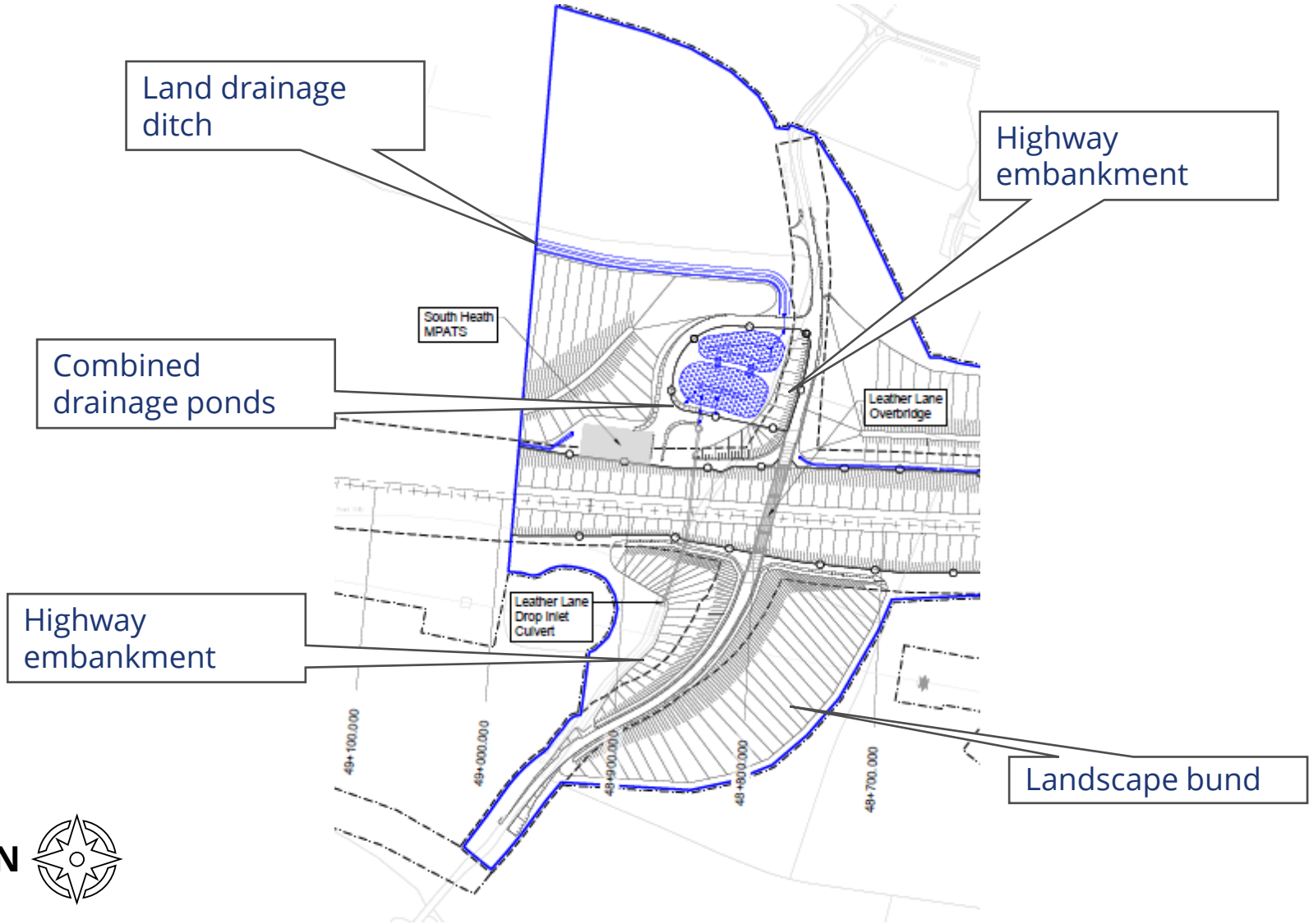
Construction Phase

Internal Site Access Road Crossing

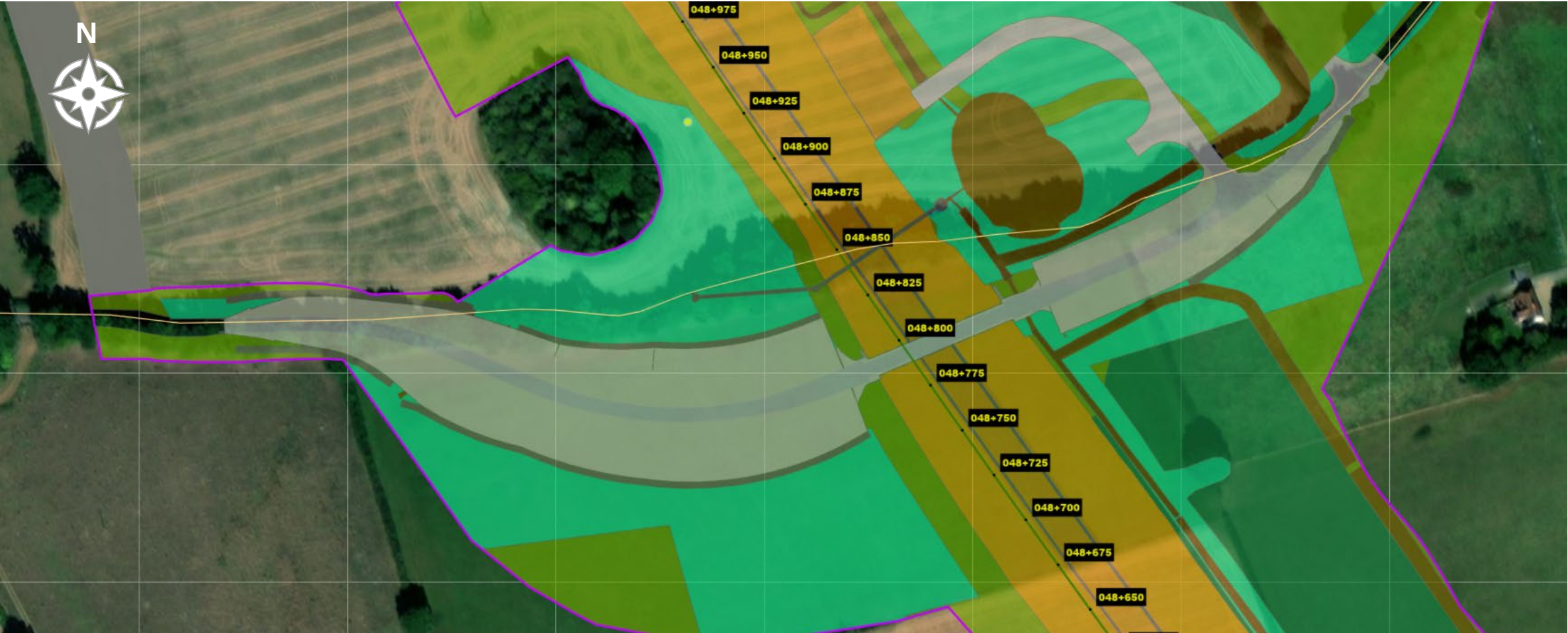


Temporary Stockpiles

Engineering Layout

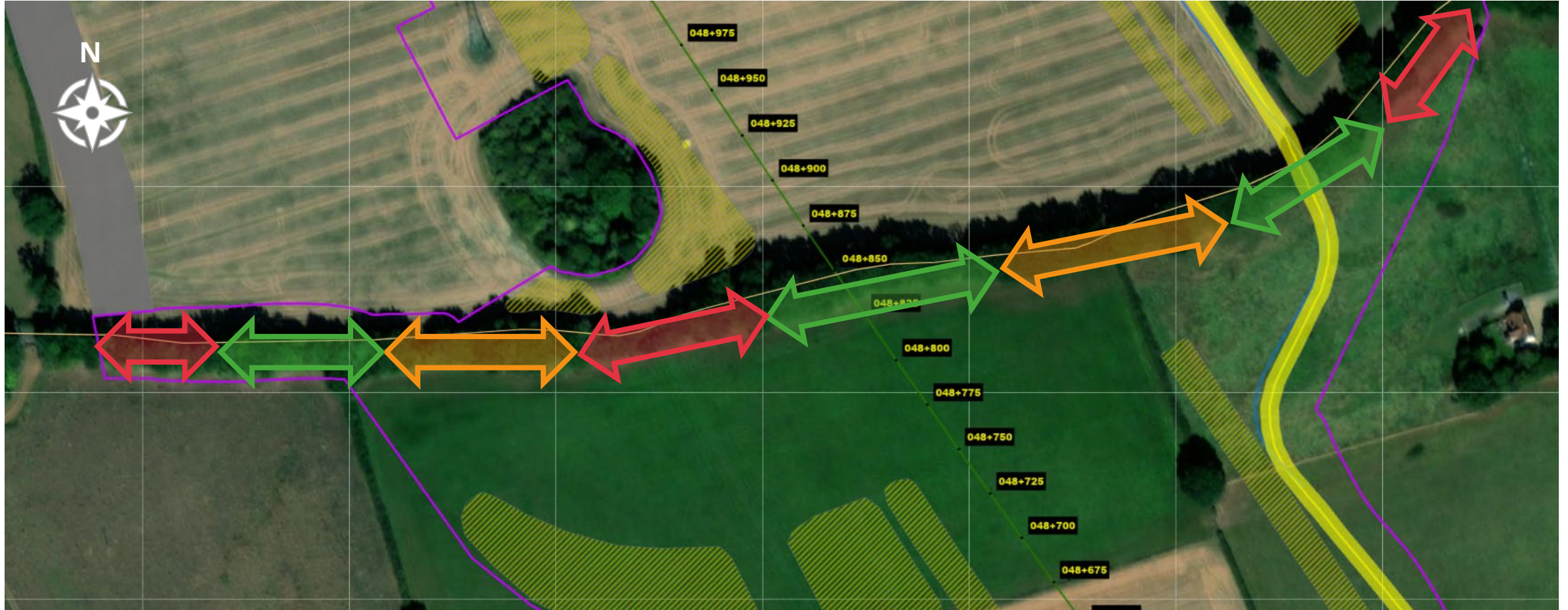


Operational Phase



Vegetation Clearance

-  To be removed*
-  To be reviewed
-  To be retained



* - subject to confirmation ecology surveys

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Proposed Planting Plans

Lineside vegetation

Woodland area

Hedgerow with Trees

Shrub planting

Hedgerow

Woodland Edge





View from GMI/2 looking north towards Leather Lane

Road Closure

Planned from 15 – 29 March

- Felling of trees local to ISAR crossing
- Construction of ISAR crossing
- Felling of other confirmed trees

EKFB **HS2**

Early Works Notification
Leather Lane, Rocky Lane & Bowood Lane closures

High Speed Two (HS2) is the new high speed railway for Britain. We are continuing reviewing the works on our construction sites in line with Government and Public Health England (PHE) advice on dealing with COVID-19. The Government's current strategy makes it clear that construction activity can continue as long as it complies with this guidance. Please be assured that only sites that can operate within the guidelines are operational. All sites will remain under constant review. You can sign up for regular updates to your local area at www.hs2infectioncontrol.co.uk.

What are we doing?
As part of our continued preparatory works for our inland haul road we are planning some local road closures for a period of 3 weeks only. This work will involve the construction of site access and road crossings. As the work requires large plant and machinery, which will be on-site on the road, we are required to fully close the lanes.

When will these works take place?
The works will commence in March and into May. Below are the locations and intended dates of when the closures will be in place:
Leather Lane - 15th March to 1st April 2021
Bowood Lane - 17th March to 23rd April 2021
Rocky Lane - 20th April to 1st May 2021

We will endeavour to keep to these start dates however this may differ depending on external factors. We will work to open the road to reduce disruption as soon as possible.

What we will do
Manage any environmental impacts, such as traffic, and noise.
Respond promptly to any complaints and take appropriate action.
Take care to respect the community.

If you have a question about HS2 or our works, please contact our HS2 Helpdesk team on 08001 434 434 or email hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk

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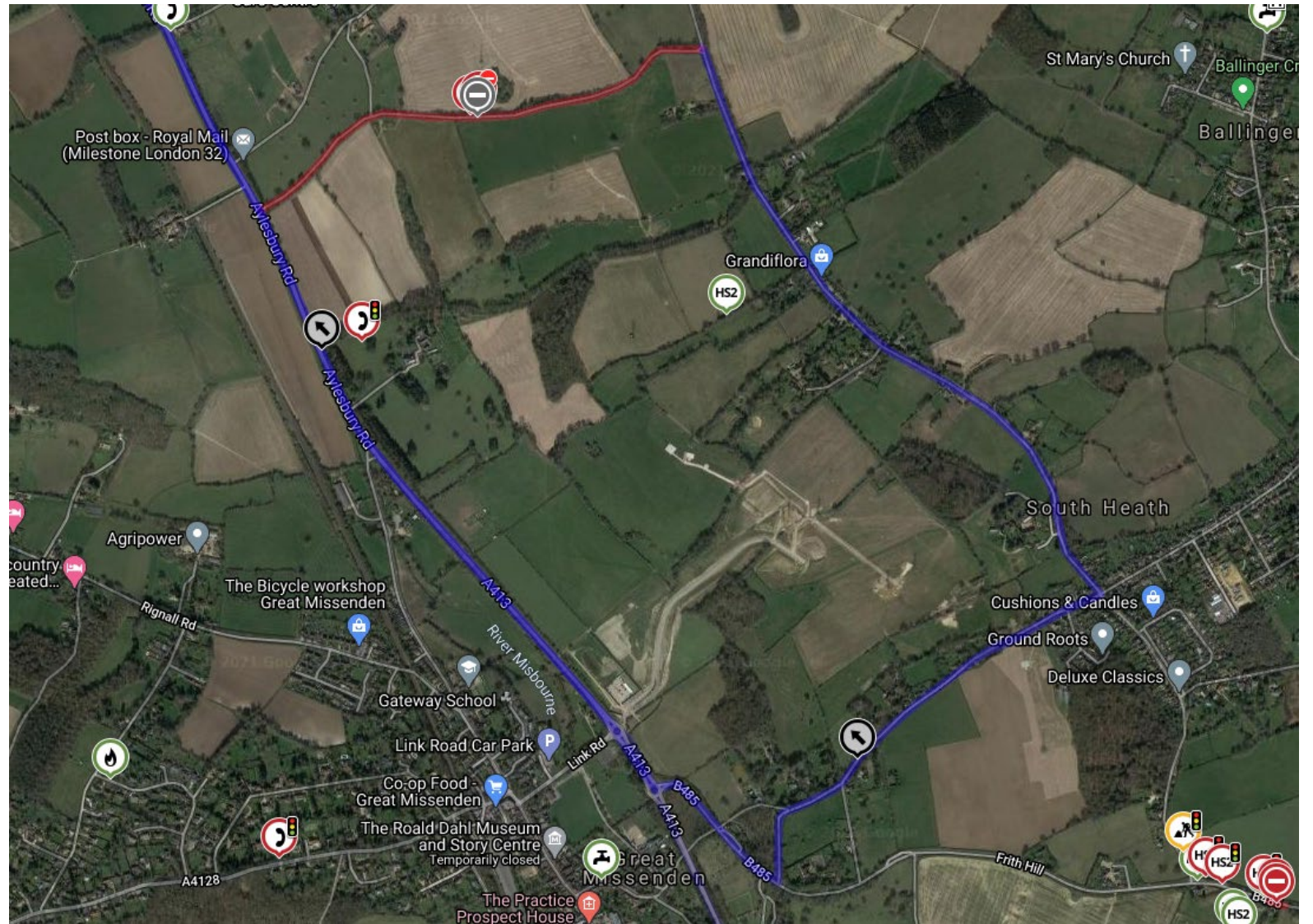
Where will the works take place?
We will be working on the entire lengths of Leather Lane, Rocky Lane and Bowood Lane as illustrated on the map below. Traffic will be diverted via Putter Row and 14th Hill as well as one of the other lanes that remain open. Access will still be maintained for residents and businesses and signage will be in place.

Duration of works
Works will commence in March 2021
Normal working hours: Monday to Friday 8:00am - 6:00pm
Saturday: 8:00am - 1:00pm

What to expect
Various activities with both quiet and busier periods.
Road closures on some local roads and some additional traffic.
Noise from plant and equipment used for the works.

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FAQs

Why can the access road, construction compound and overbridge not be moved to the other side of Leather Lane, which is free of trees?

The existing trees are on the south side of the existing road, and the new road being built is to the south. We need to clear the trees to build the railway cutting and the new road. If the road was built to the north side of the existing road, it would impact the copse of mature trees to the north west. This decision was part of our environmental assessments when designing the railway, taking into consideration the wider implications in order to come up with the best solution to minimise impacts and preserve as many trees as possible.

Why are trees being removed to build a compound and haul road?

The trees are being removed to construct the permanent works. The temporary haul road is positioned where trees are being cleared to build the permanent works so there is no tree felling just for temporary works. There will be a small scale welfare unit for the construction of the overbridge, but no compound.

Why can't you use the A413 to access the site access road?

We have community commitments to relieve construction traffic from local road networks. The internal site access road which will be used during the construction process will take the heavy construction vehicles out of the interface with the public traffic and reduce daily vehicle movement numbers on the roads.

What will happen to replace the removed trees?

Our landscape architects have developed a series of landscape planting which is a combination of woodland, shrub and hedgerows, designed to respond to the local landscape character.

FAQs

Are these trees subject to any preservation orders?

No. When we survey the areas that we work in, trees with designated tree protection orders (TPO) around them we are aware of and have to take into consideration within our design.

Is this area designated ancient woodland?

No. Working within the ANOB we have areas of ancient woodland which we take into consideration, but this section of vegetation along Leather Lane is not classified as ancient woodland

Why are you are removing trees and ecosystems without thought?

One of the HS2 deliverable aims is create a Green Corridor. It will be the largest single environmental project in the UK. We will leave behind more than 33 square kilometres of new woodland, wildlife and river habitats alongside the line from the West Midlands to London, the equivalent of 23 new Hyde Parks lining the spine of the country. The rest of the HS2 network is still being developed and designed, and will provide even more opportunities to expand the Green Corridor farther north. The Green Corridor will be a home for wildlife and integrate HS2 into the landscape, and where we can retain existing ecosystems and habitats where practicable we will.

When will the final designs be available?

We are working with Buckinghamshire Council to finalise our Schedule 17 planning submission and aim to submit this in April. Once the design is finalised, and the submission made, we will notify this on Commonplace with a link to the Council's planning website.