



Work on site has resumed

Having received agreement for a programme of advanced works, Costain, the contractor for the development, has resumed work on site this week. The programme for advanced works will include:

- The removal of the steel store frame;
- Construction of a temporary bridge to allow plant across the railway line.

Following discussions with Network Rail, Tesco has also recently updated Buckinghamshire County Council on the detailed process and associated timelines for this work. The latest plan from Tesco's contractors and engineers has moved the expected completion date from March to October 2010.

Tesco will continue to keep the local community informed of all developments relating to the construction and will provide advanced notification of work taking place on site both on the website and the site notice-board.

Tesco is pleased to be resuming work on site. The process can be long and frustrating, but it is important that safety is paramount and that the experts are given the time they need to check the plans.

Throughout the construction, the development team will do all that it can to minimise disruption and has convened a working party with Gerrards Cross Parish Council, consisting of councillors and local residents to oversee the process.

Detailed design agreement for the tunnel

In addition to the agreements received for the advanced works, the development team are continuing to work towards detailed design agreement for the tunnel construction.

The design, known as the Reinforced Concrete Arch solution, which was found to be substantially more robust than other options, received agreement in principle from Network Rail in July 2007.

Once we have received full agreement, it is our intention to begin permanent work on the tunnel in the summer.

Haul route application update

Buckinghamshire County Council's Development Control Committee met to consider Tesco's application for permission to import bulk fill material using the existing rail siding in Gerrards Cross on the 26th February. The application was refused by the Committee.

The development team would like to ensure that construction can be completed with minimal disruption to the community. Tesco and Costain remain convinced that using the haul route to import fill material is in everyone's best interests, as it will save over 10,000 lorry movements on local roads during construction and speed up the progress of the project.

Parish Council Working Party

Tesco and its development partners are involved in a working party set up by Gerrards Cross Parish Council which also includes a number of local residents. The group provides a forum to update and exchange information on the project and to respond to any questions or issues raised.

To date, issues discussed have included the upkeep of the site hoardings and fencing, and the siting of generator equipment. The new site fencing that Tesco installed last year was as a direct result of feedback from the Parish council. If you would like to raise issues that can then be discussed and resolved by the working party, please use the online feedback facility on this website or email tescogx@fd.com.

Health Protection Agency confirms no danger posed by IBAA in Gerrards Cross

The Health Protection Agency (HPA) has endorsed the findings of Dr. Bernard Acton who concluded that the use of Incinerator Bottom Ash Aggregate (IBAA) in Gerrards Cross is “legal and fit for purpose”. In an independent response to Dr. Acton commissioned by South Bucks District Council, the HPA has stated that the stockpiles of IBAA at the Gerrards Cross site “do not currently represent a dust problem”.

Tesco welcomed the decision of South Bucks District Council to show due diligence in asking for an independent review of Dr. Acton’s report and are pleased that the robustness of Dr Acton’s report has been recognised.

Going forward, it is vital that Tesco continue to ensure that IBAA on the site is safe Tesco and Costain are liaising with South Bucks District Council to implement a continuous monitoring strategy and once construction starts, Costain will employ a best practice dust management strategy.

