

A483/A489

Newtown Bypass

Project Bulletin 2: February 2017

GRIFFITHS

civil engineering and construction

Welcome to the second edition of the Newtown Bypass Project Bulletin

We hope that you enjoyed and found the first edition interesting, if there is any particular information you would like to read about, please let us know. There are a number of ways you can get in touch: you can call our Community Engagement Team on 01686 806682, email tracey.evans@alungriffiths.co.uk or write to Alun Griffiths (Contractors) Ltd, Newtown Bypass Site Offices, A483 Dolfor Road, Newtown, SY16 4BQ. If you would like to receive future newsletters electronically, please let Tracey know.



The Considerate Constructors Scheme (CCS) is a non-profit-making, independent organisation founded in 1997 by the construction industry to improve its image. Construction sites, companies and suppliers voluntarily register with the Scheme and agree to abide by the Code of Considerate Practice.

We were recently visited by the CCS and were delighted to have been awarded "Excellent" in four out of five categories and "Exceptional" in the Respect for the Community category, giving us a total score of 41 out of 50, we will now work on areas identified by the monitor which we can improve on.

If you would like further information on the Considerate Constructors Scheme please visit www.ccscheme.org.uk

Update from Project Manager, Nick Cleary



In 2016 we made real progress and achieved some key milestones. We set up the main compound on Dolfor Road and completed site clearance and accesses along the whole route. Archaeological investigations and environmental protection measures have been completed along significant lengths of the route. A few objects of interest were found and investigated including a Roman road, some kilns and some Roman and bronze age pottery.

The majority of service diversions and protection measures have been carried out where the bypass crosses services and meets the existing roads. At the Western end of the Bypass we completed the flood compensation area, ponds and embankments. We have also formed the embankments and attenuation ponds at Kerry Road ready for the new round about to be constructed.

Good progress has also been made on the structures. Bridge 1 at Glandulas Caravan Park is almost complete as are two of the four underpasses in the Mochdre area. Works have commenced at Bridge 2 in Mochdre Lane and Bridge 6 which will carry Upper Dolfor Road over the new bypass. The drainage works also commenced with focus on the culverts and pipes that take existing watercourses under the bypass.

You may have noticed less activity on site this winter compared to earlier in the year. This is quite normal as the winter weather prevents us from carrying out certain types of work, such as moving earth efficiently. This means we concentrate our efforts in a few specific areas and spend time planning and preparing our work schedules ready for when the better weather arrives in the spring.

We have a busy 2017 ahead and will be moving the majority of the earth to form the bypass as well as building some of the key bridges and you will see the bypass really begin to take shape over the year. We will be in touch with further updates throughout the year and if you are directly affected by any of our works our Community Liaison Officer will contact you directly to discuss this beforehand.



Working with NPTC College Students

Griffiths has a long standing relationship with NPTC Group with many of our engineering students studying with them. Over the years we have worked together on a number of projects advising and supporting students.

This year we were asked if we would like to support a group of students with an idea they had to construct a sustainable, ecofriendly and uniquely designed shed that they would use as a retail outlet for enterprise activities and would also be entered into Channel 4's Shed of the Year Competition 2017.



The Students visit site to witness donated tree being planed



**The finished shed
- The Crafty Pod**

Working with several local organisations and community groups (including Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust, Glanhafren, Coed Cymru and Griffiths) the group has followed the creative process from their initial ideas inspired by research of pop up shops, features of Welsh and local historical architecture and environmental features to the development of models and their final inventive design. They have

incorporated environmentally friendly features such as a living roof and rain water harvesting and are building the structure using wood felled from the Newtown Bypass Scheme and donated by Griffiths and Spencer Environmental. With advice and support from Griffiths environmental consultants on the Newtown Bypass Scheme, TACP, flora from the local area will be used for the living roof.

The students currently use the courtyard area where the shed, which they named The Crafty Pod, is sited for horticultural activities and will further develop these skills in the raised flower beds that are incorporated into the design. Bug hotels mirroring the shed design will also be sited in the area.

Sarah Welch from NPTC said: "The project is a wealthy learning experience for this group of students who have been provided with opportunities to develop their skills within a real working environment, collaborating with practitioners from specialist organisations. The shed will allow them opportunities to develop their entrepreneurial skills and provide a legacy for future students across the campus."



CONSTRUCTION

The National Skills Academy for Construction is led by the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB) and is a project based training concept tailored to helping contractors get the right skills on site for current staff, new employees and subcontractors.

We are extremely proud to have been awarded National Skills Academy status on the Newtown Bypass Scheme. The Skills Academy will provide a number of employment opportunities for apprenticeships and training for current and new employees.

There is currently a skills shortage within the construction and civil engineering industry. Our Skills Academy will work with local schools and colleges to promote careers within the industry such as Civil Engineers, Quantity Surveyors, Plant Operatives and Ground Workers. We will be providing opportunities for work experience and a number of Apprenticeship places.

We have already received a number of local personnel, including some who have been long term unemployed. Our aim is to provide the skills and training to those we employ during the life of the scheme which will help them to sustain future employment once the Newtown Bypass is complete.

One person who applied to join Griffiths is Jordan Jarvis from Builth Wells. Jordan joined the company as an Apprentice Engineer on the Newtown Bypass Scheme, he will be earning while learning as a CITB Apprentice. Jordan attends NPTC College, Newtown one day a week where he is studying a two year BTEC in Civil Engineering. He is based on site for the remaining four days gaining valuable site experience. With support from Griffiths Jordan Plans to complete an HNC and finally a degree in Civil Engineering.

If you are interested in a career within the construction and civil engineering industry, you can find more information on the CITB website www.citb.co.uk



Good Causes Committee

At Griffiths we receive many requests for support and are happy to help local charities and voluntary groups where we can. On the Newtown Bypass we have a Good Causes Committee which meets quarterly to consider requests and ensure our support is shared fairly throughout the community and given to causes where it will bring most benefit.

If you are a group looking for sponsorship, financial support, materials or would like some assistance in the form of manpower or labour for a charitable event, we would be happy to consider your request. Please write to the Community Engagement Team at Alun Griffiths (Contractors) Ltd, Newtown Bypass Site Offices, A483 Dolfor Road, Newtown, SY16 4BQ or email tracey.evans@alungriffiths.co.uk

We would love to hear your comments, and feedback on this newsletter please contact our Community Engagement Team on 01686 806682 or email tracey.evans@alungriffiths.co.uk