

HS2

Phase One Heritage Sub-group

Virtually

16th March 2021

Agenda

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. Introductions and welcome | 10mins |
| 2. Values moment | 10mins |
| 3. CEF/BLEF update | 20mins |
| 4. Planning Forum update | 15mins |

Break

- | | |
|--|---------------|
| 5. Built Heritage and setting in the design process | |
| Discussion | 30mins |
| 6. AOB | 15mins |



Women into Construction

HS2 committed to support under-represented and disadvantaged groups to access opportunities

Delivering work placement programmes. It's key aims are:

- Bring together the “opportunity” (employment) & “challenge” (supporting under-represented groups)
 - Break down barriers into construction faced by women
 - Raise awareness of the vast amount of occupations and opportunities available in the industry
 - Enable women from the West Midlands looking for employment the opportunity to achieve their CSCS cards and experience working in HS2 Ltd in various occupations according to their interests
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HS2

Community and Environment Fund (CEF)
and
Business and Local Economy Fund (BLEF)



Background

CEF - Aim and Objective;

To fund projects that add benefit over and above committed mitigation and statutory compensation to communities along the route that are demonstrably disrupted by the construction of Phase One of HS2 between London and the West Midlands and Phase 2a from Fradley to Crewe.

Initiatives the CEF may support might include:

- Improved pedestrian, equestrian, or cycle access not provided under statutory services;
- Landscape and nature conservation enhancement projects which increase biodiversity
- Enhancement or replacement of sports and recreational facilities;
- Improved access and enhancements to public open space;
- Provision of enhanced or new community facilities; and
- Refurbishment/re-use of historic buildings and monuments.

BLEF - Aim and Objective;

Same as for CEF but more about support local economies that are demonstrably disrupted by the construction of HS2. Initiatives BLEF may support might include:

- Schemes to improve the local public realm especially in retail and tourist areas;
- Improved local cycling and pedestrian access to local economic centres;
- General promotional activity for local economic benefit;
- Creating and running events that increase footfall or promote business activity during seasonal periods (for example, farmers markets);
- Employment and job creation schemes;
- Town/village discount cards to retain spend in local areas and;
- Projects that aim to increase tourist visits to an area.
- Meanwhile use projects, such as pop-up cafés, shops and temporary uses of empty property and land.

Background

CEF & BLEF is one grant programme with two elements. You have to formally apply and meet the criteria in order to be successful.

£40m for Phase One. Opened for applications in March 2017. £15m for Central region, £7.5m for Greater London, £7.5m for West Midlands and £10m for cross border and off route projects.

£5m for Phase 2a. No geographical funding split. Opens for applications on the 1st April 2021.

Funding covers the construction period and first year of operation of HS2 services.

To apply for CEF the applicant needs to be formally established for public benefit and be not for profit. Primarily aimed at charities and the voluntary/community sector.

Same for BLEF although it is more targeted at organisations which have formal objectives that support the development of local business/tourism such as LEPs, BIDs and Chambers of Commerce etc. Can't fund individual businesses.

Capital, revenue or both. Revenue funding up to 3 years. If Capital, the applicant needs to own or lease the facility.

Match funding requirements depending on who applies and for which element.

The funding programme is managed by Groundwork UK (a national charity) on behalf of HS2 Ltd. They were appointed following a tender exercise to find a suitable body. This ensures independence and full accountability in the decision making process.

Funding options

CEF Local

Fund smaller projects (maximum of **£75,000**) which will benefit quality of life for individual communities.

CEF Strategic

Fund larger projects (between **£75,001- £250,000**) which benefit multiple disrupted communities along the route.

BLEF

Fund projects from **£10,000** up to a maximum of **£250,000**

- **£10,000 - £75,000** typically for smaller scale, pilot/kick starters
- **£75,001 - £250,000** typically for longer term or larger scale

Assessment criteria

Need

Planning

Disruption

**Sustainability/
Legacy**

CEF & BLEF update

Projects on the interactive map (as of 26th February 2021);

- 147 projects worth £9.01m.
- 5 CEF Strategic projects, 7 BLEF projects & 135 CEF Local projects.

Map key;

Blue - Existing projects

Yellow - New projects added this month

Green - Completed projects

Square – Strategic projects

<https://www.groundwork.org.uk/Sites/hs2funds/pages/hs2-community-and-business-funds-project-map>



Heritage project examples

Quainton Windmill restoration

Quainton Parish Council, awarded £10,000 to restore Quainton Windmill, working with Quainton Windmill Society, which was formed in 1974, by a group of volunteers who work to maintain and restore the windmill to full working order.



Shenstone Tower restoration

Friends of Shenstone Tower have been awarded £70,170 to help save and preserve the village's 13th century Grade II listed old church tower by renovating it and installing facilities so it can be opened up for use by the local community.

Heritage project examples

Buckinghamshire County Museum

The museum has been awarded £74,430 to provide 5 new interactive galleries with stunning displays featuring star objects from the applicants stored collections.

The galleries will tell the story of Buckinghamshire people and landscapes from 200 million years ago, through to today and will include objects found in the surrounding areas of Aylesbury and stories from their diverse communities.

Amersham Museum

The museum were awarded £16,080 to fit out Amersham Mobile Museum.

The Mobile Museum is a mobile exhibition, housed in a retro-style vehicle, which tells the story of Amersham in the 20th century.

The Mobile Museum showcases a range of mixed media work, including oral history, film, photographs, documents and objects.

Other heritage related project examples

- A war memorial in Water Orton
- Refurbishment of numerous listed church buildings (along the Phase One route) for community use
- A community garden within the walled garden of a listed former manor house

Contact details & more information

Independent Grant Management Body - Groundwork UK

Telephone hotline 0121 237 5880

HS2funds@groundwork.org.uk

All the key documents including guidance documents, FAQs etc

<https://www.groundwork.org.uk/hs2funds>



Working in
partnership with

HS2

Heritage Settings and Schedule 17

How are heritage settings being considered in the design process?

Chiltern District Council

Heritage Sub-group March 2021

Bottom House Farm Lane

ES: medieval hollow way



Bottom House Farm Lane

ES: medieval hollow way

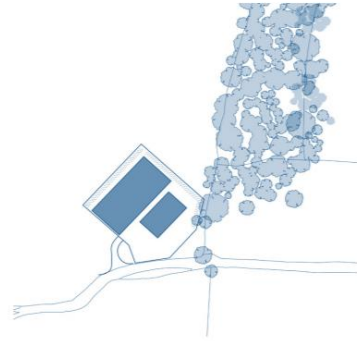


Design Process

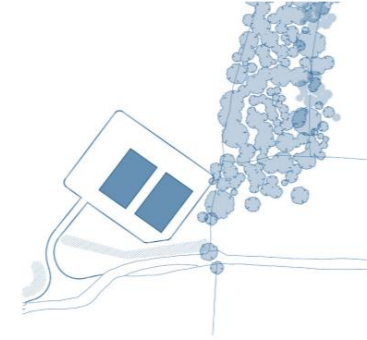
(from the LPA perspective)

- AONB Review Group
- Design Principles, including historic environment
- Very early engagement - identified heritage interest of cottage and lane and importance of rural setting
- Workshops – appropriate design forms, options – gradual design evolution
- Sensitive architectural and landscape proposals
- Repeated pre-app engagement
- Independent Design Panel (Key Design)
- Final pre-app refinements
- Parallel submission of Para 2/3 and Para 12 restoration applications for clear intent

Hybrid bill design



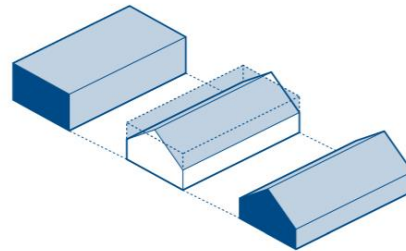
Specimen design



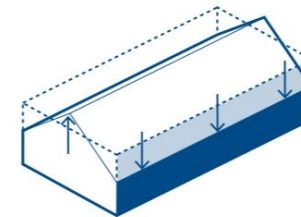
Schedule 17 Scheme



Flat roof to pitched



Reduce eave height



Agricultural barn context

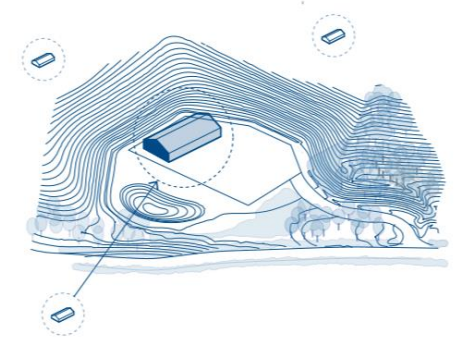


Fig.5.1_Diagrams - Key design development

Outcome

(To be determined 12th March)



Fig.9.3_ Visualisation - PRoW to south of site looking north (Year 1)



Fig.9.6_ Visualisation - PRoW to south of site looking north (Year 15)

Discussion points:

But the historic cottage close-by was not mentioned in the DAS

- How are heritage matters presented in the original brief to the designers and how do they inform design?
- How does HS2's internal process track whether heritage settings were being taken into account?
- Would the outcome have been so kind without the special degree of engagement between the designers and local stakeholders?

Further down the lane



Monitoring and emergency support agreed

... the lane has to be widened...



Setting rural; narrow hollow way (3m)

Widening the lane:

Imminent application for earthworks and a fence

Highway

- Listed granary retained, but a 4m zone required - will large vehicles clip the barn?
- Lane retained but with complex highway requirements (4m carriageway; 1.3m for a drain; 1m for utilities, totalling 6.3 m)
- Conflict with the essence/character of the hollow way

Landscape

- 10m of hedging retained either side of the granary
- Discussing how to re-create the narrow look, e.g. grassing over the drain, sloping over the utilities, and planting thick hedging on the slope behind

Discussion: If the character of the lane as a historic rural routeway had been recognised at an early stage, would the engineering requirements for the drain and utility gap have taken such precedence?

South Heath Cutting: pre-app

- Minimal initial reference to historic landscape or setting of farms along ridge 200m parallel to railway
- Sunken lanes are not highlighted as heritage assets
- Imaginative design ideas for recreating sunken effect for re-located lane, but no investigation for section to be removed
- Willing planting schemes – valuable dressing but not core
- Why an ancient woodland defined by earthworks should not be enlarged
- How are setting issues being balanced against viability issues?
 - Faithfulness to the open landscape, or bunds and tree screens to protect from noise and visual intrusion?
- Rigidity regarding noise impact

Engagement is:

- Inclusive
- Highly rewarding
- Thought-provoking and extremely interesting
- Overall a really good 2-way thing!

But:

- Where is the start point for taking heritage settings into account?
- What should we be expecting?
- How much does HS2 get involved with heritage settings if LPAs don't ask for specific help?