

# Meeting minutes

## Phase One Heritage Sub-group

**Meeting date** Thursday, 08 May 2025  
**Meeting location** MS Teams  
**Meeting time** 13.30

Attendees	Attendees	Attendees
<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>HS2Ltd</b>	<b>Access +</b>
Historic England	Head of Historic Environment	Key Account Manager
GLAAS	Historic Environment Lead	Historic Environment Lead
Northamptonshire	Historic Environment Data Manager	Technical Delivery Lead
Hertfordshire	Historic Environment Senior Manager	Technical Delivery Manager
Buckinghamshire	Historic Environment Schedule 20 Co-ordinator	Lead Archiving Specialist
Staffordshire	Historic Environment Manager (Area North)	
Warwickshire		
Hammersmith & Fulham		
North Warwickshire		
West Northamptonshire		

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**Chair** Head of Historic Environment HS2 Ltd

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**Date** 08 May 2025

### 1.1 Welcome & introductions

### 1.2 Values moment

1.2.1 HS2 gave a values moment on consistency as a key to progress and success.

### 1.3 Post excavation: HS2 introduction

1.3.1 The HS2 Historic Environment lead provided background to the Post Excavation Services contract, taking attendees back to the environmental impact assessment work and hybrid Bill. He highlighted the substantive completion of the programme of investigation/ recording and post excavation assessment stage.

1.3.2 He provided a high-level overview of the Post Excavation Services contract programme.

## 1.4 Post excavation: Access +

- 1.4.1 The Access+ Historic Environment Lead introduced the Access+ team led by Headland Archaeology and its constituent parts. He set out the project's goals and outlined key contract dates.
- 1.4.2 The Access+ Historic Environment Lead set out the relevant sections of the Heritage Memorandum in relation to post excavation and the subgroups role and required discussions, as well as highlighting the ongoing service level agreement with Historic England.
- 1.4.3 He set out the project design scope and the approach to consultation for Stage 1 and then consultation Stage 2 - the delivery of the project design.
- 1.4.4 Further detail on the technical aspects of works to date and future activities were set out by the Technical Delivery Lead, Technical Delivery Manager and the Lead Archiving Specialist.
  - 1.4.4.1. Observation: Historic England noted that the scientific dating sections of post excavation assessments were often largely on charcoal as opposed to other elements, thereby highlighting a skewed view of potential.
  - 1.4.4.2. Response: Access+ was pleased to have further discussions around this technical point.
  - 1.4.4.3. Question: GLAAS asked if other HE colleagues could be brought into the peer review panels, and consultations even if they have not had previous HS2 involvement.
  - 1.4.4.4. Access+ saw no issue with inclusion, provided it was appropriate, and noted that LPA and HE stakeholders could opt into peer review and engagement activities based on their expertise and available resources. The development of peer review panels and associated invitations is ongoing.
  - 1.4.4.5. HS2, Access+, and HE will continue discussions to identify suitable HE specialists for peer review panels, which remain distinct from the sub-group.

## 1.5 HS2 Hist Env team updates

- 1.5.1 The HS2 team provided summaries of works across the route; Schedule 20 activities and data management.
  - 1.5.1.1. Question: Warwickshire Archaeologist asked for further information regarding the Coleshill historic landscape proposals.
  - 1.5.1.2. Response: HS2 to arrange a meeting to bring her up to date on this site-specific query. No further reporting necessary to the sub-group.

## **1.6 General HS2 Update**

- 1.6.1 An outline was given of the HS2 Reset and Bridge Year.

## **1.7 Closing remains & AOB**

- 1.7.1 The Head of Historic Environment reflected on the milestone that the contract awarded represented and the excitement for the Post Excavation programme to be delivered by Access+
- 1.7.2 The next meeting was proposed for December 2025 via MS Teams.