

Newsletter 1: February 2021

Welcome to our first Newsletter for the

Bridge of Earn to Newburgh Active Travel Project.

We are looking to update stakeholders on a regular basis to keep you informed on the project's progress.

The project has been split in 3 phases as detailed below and is looking to be delivered from its western end in Bridge of Earn heading eastwards:

- Phase 1: Section 1A: Bridge Earn near Old Edinburgh Road to the Community Woodlands
- Phase 1: Section 1B: Community Woodlands underneath the M90 to just west of Oudenarde Roundabout
- Phase 1: Section 2: Baiglie Straight down to Aberargie Roundabout
- Phase 2: Glenfoot through Abernethy to Jamesfield just over the railway line
- Phase 3: Jamesfield into Newburgh

Background

There has long been a desire locally and especially within the communities of Newburgh, Abernethy, Aberargie and Bridge of Earn, to have better provision for cycling and walking. An off-road facility is the safest option however, to achieve this requires landowner permissions, the assurance of future maintenance and suitable funding. Cycling & Walking Charity Sustrans asked PKCT to investigate the possibility of creating a safer link in the area, including along the Baiglie Straight on the A912.

What has happened so far?

During initial stages of the study, five route options were surveyed and appraised including remote paths, the field edges away from the carriageway and the existing route along the Dron Road. The route options appraisal considered accessibility, maintainability and deliverability amongst many other factors and the outcome identified the route on the north verge to be the most advantageous in delivering the aims of the project. This new proposal provides a traffic free, all abilities route accommodating the 5 core principles of design for walking and cycling. In brief they are: Directness, Comfort, Safety, Attractiveness and Coherency.

Phases Explained – why have they been split up in this way?

With a complex project, and with the distances involved, breaking the project into manageable phases is standard. This process assists with fund raising and fulfilling community expectations.

What are the Phases in more detail?

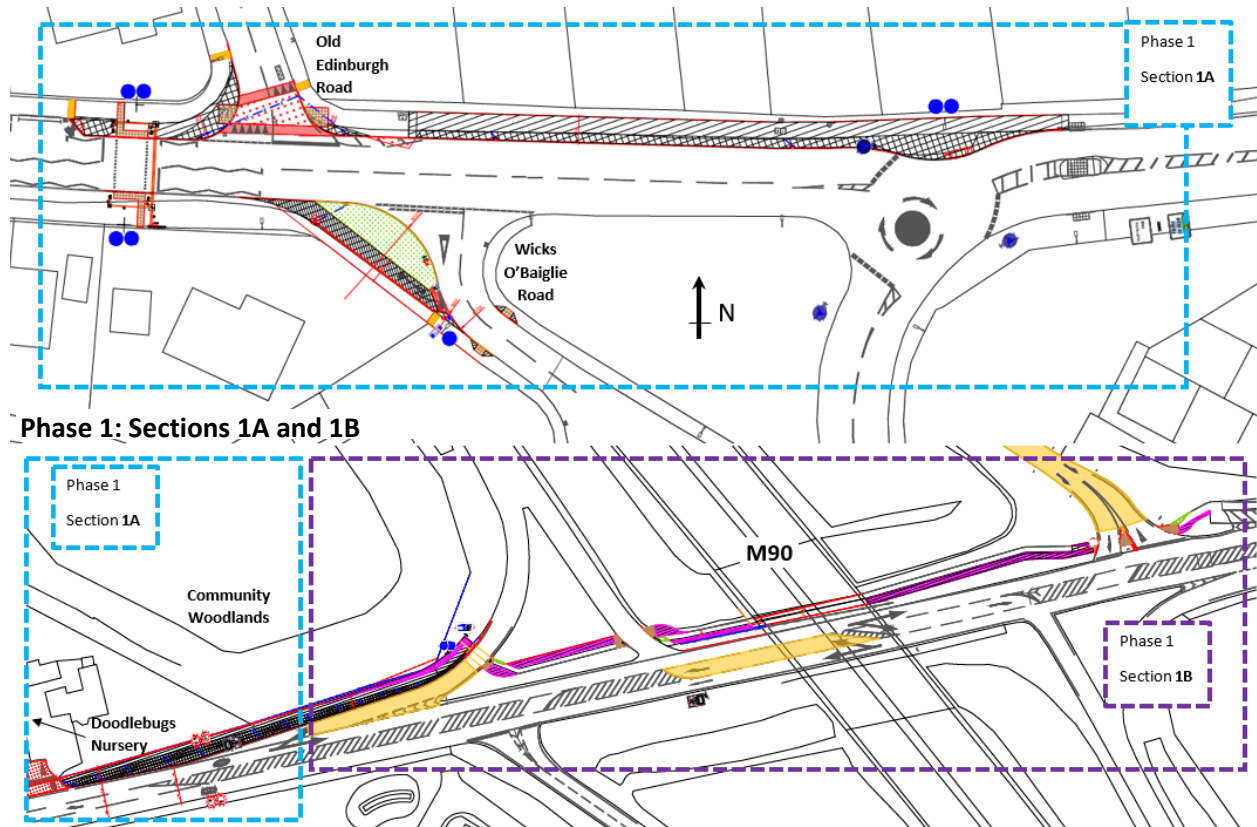
Phase 1 Sections 1A + 1B

Different funders agree to fund different aspects of a project, in different time frames and with differing conditions. This, together with the complexities of the project, such as landowner or business requirements, road traffic management, legal and highway consents, ecological factors and seasonal pressures all add up to provide the framework within which the project can be delivered.

Phase 1 Section 2 Baiglie Straight

Work continues to develop the designs for the new off-road active travel facility alongside the carriageway between the M90 flyover and the Aberargie roundabout. Additional surveying was carried out to provide clarity on the lane widths, not an easy task to carry out safely.

This was completed in response to concerns raised about the potential pressures upon larger vehicles and collisions. The design going forward will embrace all road safety legislation required on A class arterial roads.



Aberargie to Glenfoot Junction

Perth & Kinross Council have continued the work to upgrade the existing footway between Aberargie Roundabout and the junction at Glenfoot road end. This was achieved with funding from Tactran and with a redetermination applied on that part of the footway, dual use by walkers and cyclists shall be permitted.

Phase 2

The work to create provision for active travel shall continue from the point where the upgraded footway, carried out by Perth & Kinross Council ends at Glenfoot. The options appraisal process is almost completed, and wider community consultation shall commence in order to establish the preferred route options through Abernethy and onto the railway bridge near Jamesfield.

Phase 3

Continuing from the eastern side of the railway bridge at Jamesfield and onto Newburgh, the process of options appraisal is completed, however landowner discussions are outstanding in order to finalise the routes available.

How you can help & further updates

Regular updates and more info can be found on www.pkct.org
Please contact us on info@pkct.org if there are any queries or facts that you require more information on.

We will be looking to find further ways to communicate the project details depending on the lifting of Covid-19 Restrictions.