

Banwell Bypass Community Newsletter

February 2026



Construction Update

Concrete Pouring

We have recently completed concrete pouring for the Moor Road bridge deck and parapets (bridge walls). The bridge deck is essential for the durability and structural integrity of the Moor Road Bridge. When the new bridge opens it will carry Moor Road traffic over the Banwell River, providing a new connection between Moor Road and Riverside Road. The new Moor Road link is currently scheduled to open early summer 2026

Culverts

We have been making good progress on the culvert at Wallymead West. The individual sections and wing walls of the culvert are now in place. Next steps are to seal it and waterproof it. This will enable the rhyne to flow safely underneath the new bypass route.

Piling works

We've also made good progress on the piling works needed for Banwell River bridge. So far 1,200 embankment piles have been installed out of 2,010. Pile driving works involve drilling into the ground. Building deep foundations that can support large structures at ground level. This is an essential part of building roads and bridges.

Protecting the Environment

Looking after the local environment is a crucial aspect of our work; the Banwell bypass scheme itself is due to deliver a 40% bio-diversity net gain with protections for wildlife and the introduction of new grassland and wetland.

To help us do this, we get expert advice from our ecological partners, TACP (UK) Ltd, who complete regular ecological surveys, impact assessments, and design scheme mitigations to support the local environment. They also introduce us to some furry friends along the way!

Badger Setts

We have recorded badger activity at the eastern end of the scheme (along the A368). We have built a new artificial badger sett to comply with our licence to mitigate impacts against protected species. Badger setts provide habitats and protect local badger populations. This is particularly important, both as we build and eventually open for traffic.

Mammal Culverts

The team are building mammal culverts, which act as underground road crossings for animals; so that wildlife can safely pass from one side of the bypass to another.

Fun fact the angle of the passageway can be no steeper than 4cm! this is to ensure that animals don't get stuck trying to climb a slope; the mammal culvert is crucial for the likes of our local dormice, badgers, rabbits and foxes.



Picture of Dormice



Picture of Badger

Meet the Team: Kimberly Chikonobaya

What's your role on the project?

I'm a Trainee Site Engineer.

What's been a highlight so far?

Surveying and monitoring ground settlement has been the biggest highlight. It's given me hands-on experience with survey instruments and helped me build confidence, reliability, and time-management skills. The responsibility has supported both my professional growth and personal development.

How did you get into construction?

My interest began during a college placement at Bristol Airport as a trainee civil engineer. Seeing how much care goes into every structure made me admire the skill and dedication behind well-built projects.

What do you do outside of work?

I create weekly vlogs about daily life, which has improved my communication and editing skills. I also enjoy swimming and jogging to stay fit and focused.



Working with the community

As work on the bypass continues, we remain committed to creating social value and staying connected with community.

Here's what we've been up to recently:

Weston College

Galliford Try and North Somerset Council welcomed Weston College T-Level Design, Surveying and Planning for Construction students to our compound just before Christmas.

There, they met the Senior Project Manager and other staff who provided professional insights into the day-to-day workings of the bypass' construction and the logistics behind building it.

Remembrance Day

We were also honoured to support Banwell Parish Council's Remembrance Day commemorations.

Our supply chain partner HW Martin Traffic Management Limited also helped on the day, and we would like to thank them for their donation of time and resources.

Contact information

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