A249 Bearsted Road Improvement Scheme



Community Information Leaflet

November 2026

www.bearstedroad.co.uk

Funded by UK Government

Kent County Council kent.gov.uk

BREHENY CIVIL ENGINEERING

Project Progress Update

Following the successful traffic switch completed overnight in September, the Bearsted Road Improvement Scheme has entered its next phase. Traffic is now using the newly constructed carriageway, allowing work to progress on areas on the new Westbound Carriageway

Recent works have included completion of the new enlarged KIMS Hospital/New Cut Road roundabout realignment, the new footpath alongside Bearsted Road and site clearance which has involved removal of the existing carriageway.

What Progress Has Been Made on Site?

1. KIMS Hospital / New Cut Road Roundabout

Construction of the new KIMS Hospital/New Cut Road roundabout was completed by mid-October, marking another important milestone in the Bearsted Road Improvement Scheme.



The works included the installation of new drainage, earthworks, kerbs and a new maintenance track to form the roundabout. These elements have been delivered alongside changes to the surrounding road layout, helping to integrate the new roundabout with the wider improvements to Bearsted Road.

2. New Footpath Construction

Construction of the new footpath alongside Maidstone Crematorium has progressed, with kerbs and edging installed to define the route. Surfacing along the section beside the crematorium wall was completed in early November, allowing pedestrians to use this section of the footpath, which will eventually extend to New Cut Road.



3. Removal of the Existing Carriageway

Following the traffic switch onto the newly constructed carriageway, the existing road surface on the opposite side of Bearsted Road has been removed using a road planer which is quieter and more efficient than traditional breaking out methods.

Site clearance work has been carried out during the day and in stages, helping to optimise the planned works and minimise the duration of road closures and disruption for road users. Careful coordination with other activities across the site, including site clearance, drainage installation and footpath construction, has also helped the team make efficient use of working time and prepare the existing carriageway for the next phase of road construction and surfacing.



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Next Steps on the Bearsted Road Improvement Scheme

Throughout November and December further footpath and drainage works, construction of new central and splitter islands, utility diversions, road markings and landscaping works will continue. Works are being planned to minimise disruption to road users and the local community.

Back-to-Back Lane Closures: To allow for the installation of new traffic signals, signs and fencing, a further traffic switch is planned for approximately 26th November. Temporary 'back-to-back' lane closures will be implemented along Bearsted Road between the A249/Notcutts and KIMS Hospital/ New Cut Road roundabouts. Traffic will continue to flow in both directions but will be moved onto different lanes. This will also allow the team to safely construct the new central island. Please follow the temporary signs and traffic management in place.

1. Bearsted Road Surfacing & Electrical Connection Works: Night-Time Closures

Duration: Monday 16th November - Friday 4th December (overnight, approximately 8:00pm to 5:00am)

What to expect: Bearsted Road will be fully closed overnight between the A249/notcutts roundabout and the KIMS Hospital/New Cut Road roundabout. A signed diversion route will be in place, please follow the signs.

Why are these works required? The first two weeks will focus on tarmac surfacing, including laying asphalt to binder level on the new westbound carriageway and footpaths. This will be followed by further duct crossings to provide electrical connections for the site. Associated footpath and drainage works will also be undertaken.

Following these works. pedestrian crossing points will be adjusted to suit the developing road layout. Please follow pedestrian signs and use the designated crossing points once changes are in place.

How are we minimising disruption? By carrying out the works overnight, when traffic levels are lower, the team aims to minimise disruption to daytime journeys.

2. Roundabout Road Markings

Further road marking works are planned on the approach to Bearsted Road as the improved junction layout takes shape. This includes the triangular road markings, which will help define the road layout for approaching drivers.

These works form part of the remaining activities needed to complete the junction improvements. Please follow the road markings, signs and any temporary traffic management in place while works are underway.

3. Utility Works and Landscaping

Further work to divert existing utility cables away from the new road layout is expected to continue into December. The underground ducting needed to accommodate these cables has already been installed, with the remaining work focused on completing the cable diversions.

Landscaping works will also continue around the access and service roads as areas become available. This includes weed treatment, grass seeding and other finishing works, helping to improve introduce greenery around the new road infrastructure.

We would like to thank residents, businesses and road users for their continued patience while these essential improvement works are carried out.

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New ALDI Store

Construction of a new Aldi store, on Newnham Court Way, is now underway. Please be aware that these works are not in any way related to the Bearsted Road Project. For any enquiries regarding the Aldi development, please contact the Aldi site management team. Email: r.page@dspcmgroupsite.com

Beyond the Construction Site

While we're busy improving Bearsted Road, we're also investing in the people and communities around us. From inspiring the next generation of engineers to creating jobs and supporting local businesses, here's what we've achieved so far:

- **Inspiring young minds:** Delivered two interactive workshops for Year 6 pupils at St John's CofE Primary, alongside a hands-on construction session for Year 9 students at Snowfields Academy.
- **Bringing construction careers to life:** Met Year 8 students at The Malling School careers fair, introducing them to the people, skills and opportunities behind major infrastructure projects.
- **Opening doors through work experience:** Welcomed three individuals to gain first-hand experience of working with our project team.
- **Growing future talent:** Welcomed an apprentice engineer and an apprentice groundkeeper to the team in September.
- **Backing local businesses:** Engaged 17 Kent-based small businesses to help supply the project, supporting the local economy.

Stay Updated

Residents and businesses can continue to receive regular updates about the scheme by visiting and registering your details via : www.bearstedroad.co.uk

You can also contact the project team directly:

- Email: bearstedroad@breheny.co.uk
- Telephone: 07976 367359

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