

Pennine Reach Update; Hyndburn 3 Tier Forum 11 December 2013

- The Pennine Reach scheme received full approval from the Government at the end of September 2013. The £40 million joint scheme with Blackburn with Darwen Council is now fully funded with the Government contribution £31.9 million to the total. LCC is contributing a further £2.9 million with the balance being met by Blackburn with Darwen Council and some developer contributions via Section 106 Agreements.
- Some small scale works have now commenced with the widening of Park Road in Great Harwood being completed this week.
- The recent removal of the signalised pedestrian crossing in Towngate, Great Harwood is nothing to do with Pennine Reach. A signal head is defective and is to be temporarily replaced until works commence on the main Great Harwood scheme at the end of March 2014.
- Works on bus stop upgrades will commence in early January 2014.
- Then land required for the new Accrington Bus Station is now the subject of a Compulsory Purchase Order. The time period for objections to the CPO expired on 1st November. Five qualifying objections were received. The objectors are being contacted in an attempt to resolve the issues. We may end up with a Local Public Inquiry if we are not able to resolve all of the objections.
- The associated Stopping Up Orders for the highways that will need to be closed in order to build and operate the bus station are currently being advertised with a closing date for objections of 13th December. Two objections have been received to date, both from utility companies and these are being resolved.
- Subject to the Compulsory purchase order being confirmed we hope to start construction works on the bus station in September 2014. It may be earlier if no Public Inquiry is required. The bus station is likely to take around 15 months to build and commission.
- A communications plan is currently being drawn up to ensure that members and the general public are kept fully informed of works and other developments.
- All works on Pennine Reach should be completed by early 2016.

Hope this is useful.

Regards

Chris Anslow