

10th June 2024

Hello everyone,

I would like to firstly introduce myself, my name is Dan Rose – the site manager for the construction of the new Dutch-Style roundabout on the junction of Orchard Street and Avenue De Chartres, working for Mildren Construction on behalf of Miller Homes and Vistry Southern.

As you will have seen, works have now commenced on the construction of the new roundabout, with some early site clearance works, installation of the first phase of traffic management, and, reduce level digging ready for new road construction to the new carriageway in place of parts of the existing roundabout.

Living locally to Chichester myself, I have seen many comments on social media regarding the works, especially those relating to archaeology. I would like to assure everyone that the Museum of London Archaeology (MOLA) are on board and are present on site conducting a watch and brief during the works, to ensure that no archaeology of historic significance is disturbed or damaged as a result of our works. Their presence on site also allows them to plot and mark for their records, anything which is found, to allow them to grow their understanding of the area's past, and further protect buried ancient monuments.

Thus far, we have had one archaeological find within the footprint of the existing roundabout. From early investigations, MOLA believes that the find is a 18th / 19th century footpath for a house which previously sat on the footprint of the existing roundabout or in the road. This has been determined by the quality of the workmanship and the materials which have been used in its construction.

Isca Howell from MOLA has stated:

“A footpath has been uncovered with a potential flowerbed edging line behind, and a property boundary from a fallen structure. We believe the footpath is 19th century, and the property boundary is 18th century construction. We do not believe it to be a part of a scheduled ancient monument. These remains belonged to a terrace of buildings outside of the Roman wall. These remains lie to the south of Eric Gill's house.”

Another hot topic of discussion surrounding the scheme, is the tree located in the centre of the roundabout. The tree is under a Tree Protection Order (TPO), and therefore will be remaining in situ, and will continue to be the centrepiece of the new roundabout once finished. We take our environmental responsibilities very seriously and will ensure that the tree remains undisturbed and undamaged by our works.



We have erected robust fencing to protect the tree – this will remain in place until completion of works on the central roundabout. We are also working in close collaboration with West Sussex County Council, to make sure that they are happy with how the tree is being protected, and that our working methods do not cause it harm.

We have been making real efforts to keep in close contact with the local community surrounding the roundabout and those who will be most affected by the works. I have already had a very positive meeting with the hierarchy of the North Walls Residents' Association and am hoping to have an equally positive meeting with the Westgate Residents' association this Tuesday (11/06/2024).

I would like to thank everyone for their patience as we ramp up our construction and would like to apologise for any disruption the works may cause. We are working hard to minimise the impact these works have on the local community. If any local stakeholders wish to get in touch with me regarding the works, my phone number is 07584259075 and I would welcome you to come by our compound in the Prebendle school field on Ave De Chartres for a coffee and a chat.