

Edinburgh Glasgow Improvement Project (EGIP) – Greenhill Bridge Greenhill, Falkirk

Morgan Sindall plc & Holemasters

BIG Challenge 2015 submission category: Community Engagement

Project overview

The Edinburgh Glasgow Improvement Project (EGIP) is a multi-disciplined project for Network Rail.

The core of the EGIP scheme is to provide an electrified service with longer trains between the two cities, in turn reducing journey times.

The Greenhill Bridge part of the project is demolition and replacement of the bridge over the railway.

What were the biodiversity conditions on site, prior to the enhancement?

The existing site was a road bridge over the railway. Surveys confirmed it did not have nesting birds or bats resident within the structure, although the adjacent compound contained Japanese Knotweed.

The survey results did not reveal any valuable biodiversity in the area prior to commencing the works.

Were there any specific conditions that led to you carrying out this work?

There were no obligations to provide a positive legacy in terms of a planning condition etc.



Second Row – Left to Right:

Jennifer Green, graduate engineer, Mark Summers (P6 Bonnybridge Primary) Alan Montgomery, foreman at Greenhill, Connor Cooper and Shaun Bell (P7 St Joseph's Primary), Lee Hollywood, sub agent at Greenhill and Steven Gilmore, ganger at Greenhill.

Front Row – Left to Right:

Jack Paterson and Lauren Kelso (P1, Bonnybridge Primary) with Niamh O'Donnell and Olivia O'Donnell (P1 St Joseph's Primary) and David McArthur from Holemasters Scotland Ltd.

Morgan Sindall and our subcontractor decided to do this work as we appreciate the value it can bring to a local community.

Concrete Cutting and Diamond Drilling Contractor Holemasters was responsible for removal of concrete from the bridge deck.

The family run business also launched its own eco project last year, 'Leave Something for the Kids', which aims to help schools further enhance their green credentials whilst looking after the environment.

What were the biodiversity measures taken?

Before school finished for the summer holidays, green-fingered pupils from Bonnybridge were recently welcomed to Network Rail's Greenhill Road compound, as part of an eco-initiative to help improve the site entrance, as well as help reduce the schools' carbon footprint.

Along with support from one of its contractors, Holemasters Scotland Limited, the team invited local primary schools to leave a lasting legacy by planting trees at its access area near Laurel Grove Alex Blair, EGIP works manager responsible for the delivery of the bridge programme at Greenhill, said:

"EGIP is a major project that's objective is to provide an infrastructure to enable faster, greener and more energy efficient trains. Holemasters' initiative is something we are keen to support given its goal in raising awareness on how we all have a part to play in trying to reduce the carbon footprint."

Acer trees were planted by the children on behalf of the three primary schools in the village - Bonnybridge, St Joseph's and Antonine Way.

The pupils also scattered wildflower and alpine grass seeds, which should hopefully be in full bloom before the summer is out. Each school was presented with a certificate to thank them for their eco efforts.

How would you best describe the project?

An enhancement.

Further information

or further information on 'Leave Something for the Kids', visit www.leavesomethingforthekids.co.uk or visit us on facebook

www.facebook.com/leavesomething

What was your personal motivation for carrying out the enhancement?

David McArthur of Holemasters Scotland Ltd, said, "Children are increasingly aware about the wider effects construction has on the environment.

It was encouraging to see so many schools are committed to actively getting involved in projects such as this."