



# A140 Long Stratton Bypass – Project Update

Newsletter | Issue #3  
August-September 2024

Dear Neighbour,

Welcome to our third newsletter issue for the A140 Long Stratton Bypass Project. This newsletter features some of the work that has taken place over the month of August, provide a taster of what's to come in September and introduce you to the Octavius Team. We are always happy to hear from you or receive any feedback or ideas to improve the project communications and newsletters. Please see our details at the end of the newsletter to contact the project team.



## Project Milestones

Earthworks across the scheme are progressing well, with ongoing formation and compaction of the carriageway layout, bunds, and excavation of drainage ponds. In August, we reached a significant milestone with the commencement of piling for the overbridge at Hall Lane.

Piling involves installing foundations deep into the ground beneath a structure, reinforcing the ground and transferring the bridge's load well below the surface. The choice of piling method and pile size depends on factors such as structural weight and ground conditions.

For this project, we utilised the Continuous Flight Auger (CFA) method, which minimises noise and underground vibration when compared to traditional piling techniques.

For the overbridge, the CFA method involves drilling (like a corkscrew) a 0.9 metre diameter, 19.5-metre-deep hole using a 60-tonne piling rig. Concrete is then pumped through the auger into the base of the pile, subsequently reinforcing the borehole walls as the auger slowly retracts. A 50-tonne crane then lowers a steel cage into the filled borehole with the aid of a vibrating attachment, creating a strong steel and concrete composite once set.

A total of eight piles have been installed, contributing to approximately 156 metres in total length, with each pile requiring just over 12 cubic metres of concrete. The excavated material from the drilling process will be reused on site as additional fill material for the bunds and embankments, reducing waste, cost and minimizing associated HGV movements to and from site. As we continue this work through late August and early September, the next steps will involve excavating around each pile and using a 'cropper' to trim the top surface to the final required level.

Subsequently, pile caps will be installed above each pile which involves pouring an additional 16 cubic metres of concrete to create 8 flat and clean concrete pile caps. Once completed, this will mark one of the first visible signs of the new road bridge taking shape



Hall Lane piling location, looking south

## Job Vacancies

We are excited to announce that Octavius are recruiting for a locally based **Site Administrator** to join the project team and provide admin support on a 12 month Fixed-Term Contract. The working pattern can be flexible, and you will be based on site.

To read the job description and apply Please scan the QR code to take you to visit our portal. Or visit <https://careers.octavius.co.uk/jobs> and search for job 'Site Administrator (0376)'



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## Improving our Environment – Fuel Alternatives



We pride ourselves on being a responsible, sustainable business and as a construction contractor our environmental impact can be large however, our potential to improve our planet is great. We are delighted to support our supply chain partners, Mick George and L Lynch Plant Hire and Haulage, in their innovative trial of alternative greener fuels for their site machinery on the bypass project.

In August, our supply chain partners have taken part in a trial and analysis of an Ultimate Cell® Hydrogen Cell integration on a CAT 336 excavator. The engine device introduces small quantities of hydrogen into the engines air intake via electrolysis, improving fuel burn and efficiency. This patented device is designed to work with all fuels including diesel, petrol, liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) and ethanol engines, meeting both US and European standards.

The primary goal of this trial is to evaluate the impact of the device on fuel consumption and emissions on this type of plant. Also, to assess operational efficiency and cost effectiveness.



Scan the QR code to visit the Ultimate Cell website or visit [www.ultimatecelldistributors.co.uk](http://www.ultimatecelldistributors.co.uk)



To read more about our Sustainability commitments and goals, visit our website: [www.octavius.co.uk/sustainability/](http://www.octavius.co.uk/sustainability/)



## Community Advertisement Tharston Church Fete

THARSTON CHURCH FETE AT  
WHEELER BARN, NR15 2YF  
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 7<sup>th</sup> at 2PM

- TOMBOLA – RAFFLE - BRIC A BRAC
- BBQ & BAR with BEER & WINE
- CAKES PLANTS & PRODUCE – TEAS
- FANCY DRESS COMPETITION
- DRAWS FOR WHISKY AND £20 NOTE
- GAMES FOR CHILDREN
- Clothes, Shoes & Bags
- Possible Display of Vintage Vehicles



## Site Images



Cut ready for stabilisation trial & construction of environmental bund



Facing South – Drainage culvert installation (foreground) and Bypass carriageway approaching Parkers Lane roundabout (background, center)



## Site Images and upcoming work



As we move into September, the piling works that are required for the footbridge near to Church Lane have commenced. A pile mat has been created atop a raised embankment, stabilising the ground at the correct raised level for the 60t piling rig and crane to sit. From the pile mat, the rig will drill down to a depth of around 16 metres and create four 600mm diameter concrete column piles, approximately located near the four corners of this pile mat. Once the piling is complete, the embankment earth around the set piles will be removed and bridge supports will be formed around the piles.

In the image above you can see the line of the bypass carriageway in the background, this will eventually run below the footbridge, in between the bridge supports either side.



## Community Training Opportunity

Do you own or work for a business in Long Stratton or surrounding areas? Do you have an interest in sustainability and carbon reduction?








### BUSINESS CARBON REDUCTION WORKSHOP

**DELIVERED BY:**




*Groundwork East is a community and environment charity working across the East of England to create stronger, healthier communities, responsible business and greater prospects for local people. Find out more at: [www.groundwork.org.uk/east](http://www.groundwork.org.uk/east)*

**TO REGISTER ATTENDANCE:**

**Email:** [LSBevents@octavius.co.uk](mailto:LSBevents@octavius.co.uk)  
(limited spaces available)

**TUESDAY** 14:00 PM - 16:30 PM  
24TH SEPTEMBER

**LONG STRATTON TOWN COUNCIL PAVILION**  
MANOR ROAD  
NR15 2XR

Aiming to support local businesses to reduce their carbon footprint, focusing on practical strategies to reduce carbon and energy costs. Delivered by sustainability consultants from Groundwork East's Sustainable Business team on behalf of Octavius, the event will focus on practical strategies, and provide an opportunity for businesses to receive one to one expert advice and to network with other like-minded local businesses.

### Get in touch

If you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us. You can reach the Octavius Infrastructure A140 Long Stratton Bypass Project Team via:  
**Email:** [Long.Stratton@octavius.co.uk](mailto:Long.Stratton@octavius.co.uk)  
**Telephone:** 01737 944 831

For general project or design enquiries, contact the Norfolk County Council team via:

**Telephone:** 0344 800 8020 (Ask for Quentin Brogdale or Adam Fairhurst)  
**Email:** [longstratton@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:longstratton@norfolk.gov.uk)  
**Project Website:** [www.norfolk.gov.uk/strattonbypass](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/strattonbypass)

If you have a general highway enquiry or problem, not related to the project please report it to the Highway Authority via the online form at:  
[www.norfolk.gov.uk/highwaysproblem](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/highwaysproblem) or call 0344 800 8020.

# Essex Highways



**Norfolk**  
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