

Protos is a destination for energy, innovation and industry. Welcome to the latest edition of our community newsletter where you can find out what's been happening at the Protos site and what to expect over the coming weeks and months.



Construction of Tang Bridge as part of the Phase 2 Infrastructure Works.

LATEST NEWS

NORTH WEST REVEALS ROADMAP TO INDUSTRIAL DECARBONISATION

The North West has set out a clear roadmap to decarbonisation for the region. Peel NRE – part of Peel L&P – is one of the partners developing the Net Zero North West (NZNW) Cluster Plan which outlines how the region will deliver on its aim to be the UK's first net zero carbon industrial cluster by 2040. A new interim report outlines the progress of the Cluster Plan during the first year of the project which sets out how the region will reduce industrial emissions from 16.7 million tonnes of CO₂ every year to zero by 2040.

AT A GLANCE

Protos phase 2 infrastructure due to be complete before end of 2022.



A feat of modern engineering which will make Protos truly multi-modal!

Wildlife spotted on camera at Protos

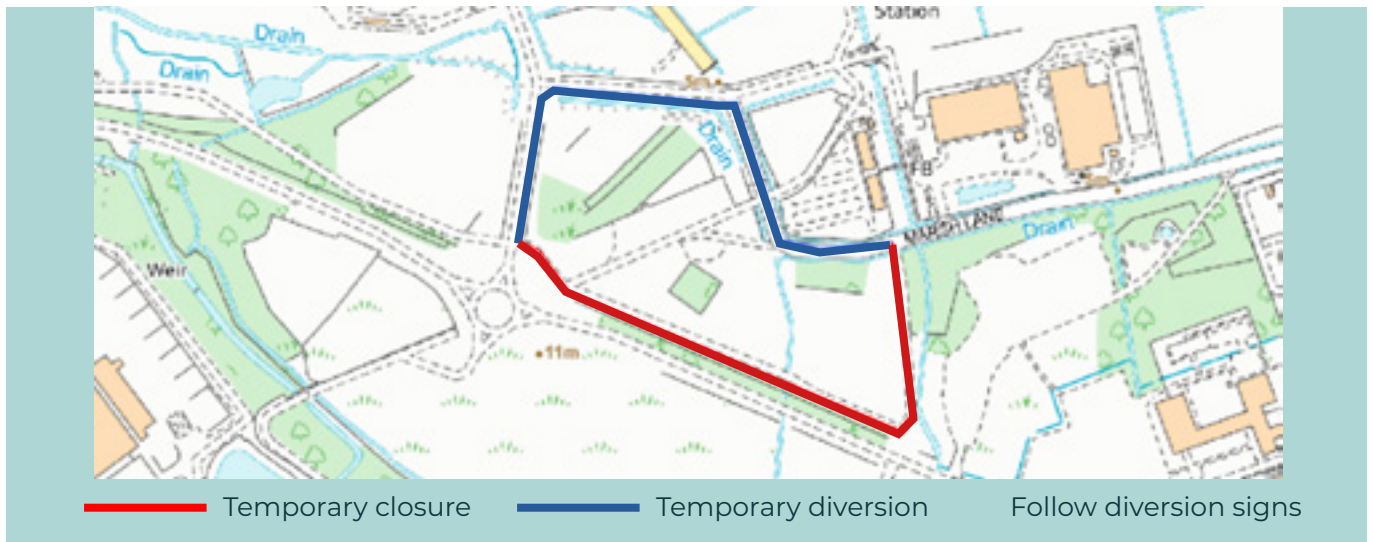


PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY DIVERSION

The public right of way that runs through Protos is being temporarily closed with a diversion route in place, which you can see on the map below. The diversion also applies to the National Cycle Route which follows the same route.

The diversion is to enable electrical cables to be installed and moved which are necessary to bring forward Plot 10b (the plastic to hydrogen facility) and Plot 13 (the PET recycling facility).

Cheshire West & Chester Council have approved the diversion and we expect to implement it in early July. The diversion will be in place until December at the latest but we will re-open the route as soon as possible. Please follow the new route to ensure you stay safe when walking or cycling through Protos and look out for the new signage which will be in place.



LATEST PROTOS PROGRESS

PHASE 2 INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE

We are making good progress with the new infrastructure for phase 2 at Protos, with the work due to complete before the end of the year. As well as delivering new nature areas, which will be planted after the Summer, we're also finalising the 1.6km of new roads, bridges, ditches and services. We've also successfully relocated a family of watervoles!



Water body in Snipe Haven

TANG BRIDGE - A FEAT OF ENGINEERING

Since early 2021 we've been busy delivering the infrastructure for Phase 2 of Protos with the work due to complete this summer. One of our biggest challenges has been the design and construction of the Tang Bridge which will connect Protos to the Manchester Ship Canal, providing opportunities for import and export of materials by water and helping to take freight journeys off the road.

Due to various site constraints, including the levels of the berth (being 3m higher than the main site), crossing an Environment Agency main river and needing to ensure access to existing pipeline services, we couldn't construct a traditional concrete bridge structure and had to come up with something a bit more inventive!

The design team looked at a variety of options before deciding on the innovative solution to construct a 50m long, three-span steel orthotropic bridge. Any of the three spans (or pieces) can be individually moved by a crane to enable access to the services underneath. A feat of modern engineering which will make Protos truly multi-modal!

ENERGY RECOVERY FACILITY (COVANTA)

Construction of the concrete fuel storage bunker is well advanced. The foundations of the tipping hall, into which the waste delivery vehicles will drive before tipping the fuel into the bunker, is also being constructed, along with foundations for the ash storage facilities. In other areas of the site, the base for the fire water storage tank and the foundations for the Air Cooled Condenser are being constructed.

Structural steelwork to support the energy recovery boiler is being erected, as is the structural steelwork for the Flue Gas Treatment building and the building that will eventually house the main electrical equipment.

Delivery of major equipment items has also now commenced with sections of the first boiler, the main step-up transformer and other components now on site. The steam turbine is due to be delivered to site during July 2022.

Covanta is now seeking community representatives to join a Local Liaison Committee for the construction phase of the project. It will meet on a regular basis with the aim of ensuring the project proceeds with minimal impact and disruption to local communities.

Visit www.protoserf.com for further info

NATURE AREAS UPDATE

Spring has well and truly sprung at the Protos nature areas. If you pay an early morning visit to Goldfinch Meadows you will be treated to a barrage of beautiful bird song. Migrants such as chiffchaff, blackcap and whitethroat have arrived and are trying to attract mates, as are some of our resident birds, like the incredibly loud for its size, wren. Coot and their young have been observed on the pond, and it is very likely there has been breeding by moorhen and mallard, on nests hidden amongst the vegetation. So, it is even more important to please keep your dog on a lead and out of the ponds and ditches!

In Snipe Haven we've captured some great footage of water voles on the hidden cameras (follow us on Twitter to see for yourself!). These cameras are a great way of monitoring nature activity at the site and recently captured a stoat running along the bank of a ditch – a species which until now we didn't know was at Protos.

A barn owl has been observed in the vicinity of the pole mounted barn owl box, so fingers are crossed that they may successfully breed in the box this year. Last year, the box was taken up by a pair of stock doves.

For more information on the nature areas and walking routes visit

www.protos.co.uk/community/nature/



Orange Tip butterfly photographed by Natalie Webb at Cheshire Wildlife Trust



Wildflowers in Goldfinch Meadows

PROTOS COMMUNITY FORUM AGM

The Community Forum is made up of local elected representatives and provides a link between Protos and the local community. It meets every quarter and discusses anything relating to the construction and operation of Protos. Each year we hold an Annual General Meeting (AGM), which members of the public are able to attend.

This year's AGM will be an online meeting and will be held on Wednesday 13th July at 630 PM where the Chair will provide a summary of activity over the last 12 months and members of the Protos team will be available to take questions from local residents.

To register to attend please email community@protos.co.uk or call 0800 689 1095

CHESTER GREEN EXPO


Earlier this month we were at the Green EXPO event in Chester. The event was showcasing progress towards tackling climate change in the North West and how it will impact how we live, work and play. Peel NRE was proud to sponsor the Innovation in Energy Award which was won by Thermify. Congratulations!

The Protos Community Fund makes funds available for local community causes every year. The benefit fund is open to bids for funding from organisations and causes in the parishes of Ince, Elton, Helsby, Frodsham, Thornton le Moors and Little Stanney. Transport, community buildings, sport, youth, and heritage are among the wide range of causes considered.

This year £50,000 has been contributed to the fund. For more details and how to apply visit protos.co.uk/how-to-apply




WHAT IS PROTOS?

Protos is Peel NRE's destination for energy, innovation and industry. Located at Ince, the £700m strategic energy hub clusters complementary businesses, including resource recovery and energy intensive industries, associated supply chain and energy generation.



£50,000
contributed to the Community Benefit Fund in 2022

Communities Supported: Ince, Elton, Helsby, Frodsham, Thornton Le Moors, Little Stanney and District

 Carpets at Elton School	 Tables and chairs for Over 50s club	 Playground equipment
 Village hall refurbishment	 Tennis equipment & court markings at Helsby Tennis Club	 Equipment for Frodsham Bell Ringers

PROTOS



Get in touch for more information on Protos

Visit: protos.co.uk

Email: community@protos.co.uk

Call: **Freephone 0800 689 1095** (During office hours Mon-Fri).

You can also follow us on **Twitter @ThisIsProtos** **Linkedin Protos**