

# WENSLEY ROAD ESTATE IMPROVEMENTS

Newsletter | February 2022



**WENSLEY ROAD**  
live. play. grow



Dear Resident,

The next phase of the estate improvements programme has moved a step nearer, with changes taking place this month in preparation. You'll be pleased to know that in response to your feedback about parking difficulties, we've opened a new car park which will be open for 18 months and can accommodate 11 cars.

Drivers will need to look out for the new yellow line parking restrictions to help with the new bus route, and public transport users should take note of the new temporary bus stops on that route. You can see a map on page 2.

With this work creating opportunities to really progress the estate improvement programme, on pages 2 and 3 we list all of the milestones you can expect to see achieved over the coming months.

Again, we thank you for your understanding as we continue to make improvements to Wensley Road.

Kind regards,

**Zelda Wolfe**

Reading Borough Council Assistant  
Director of Housing & Communities



## RECENT CHANGES

### **New parking spaces opened up:**

11 new parking spaces were opened up last week, on a strip of land running from Wensley Road to Lesford Road (between house numbers 22 and 24). You can see where on the map on page 2.

### **Bus diversion route**

Buses are now being diverted along a temporary route through Lesford Road for the duration of the improvements, including a new temporary bus stop outside 52 Lesford Road and to the right of the community centre heading into town. The bus stop outside Block 193 has also moved slightly, further up to near 187 Wensley Road.

### **New parking restrictions**

New parking restrictions came into force on Friday 11 February, with double yellow lines painted on sections of Lesford Road and Wensley Road to restrict parking at key points where the bus turns and stops.

### **Garages available now**

8 new garages behind Block 51-65 are available to rent now. We are contacting those already on the waiting list for a garage currently, but should you wish to add your name to the list please go to [www.reading.gov.uk](http://www.reading.gov.uk) and search 'Garages' or call 01189 373787. More garages will become available over the course of the improvement work.

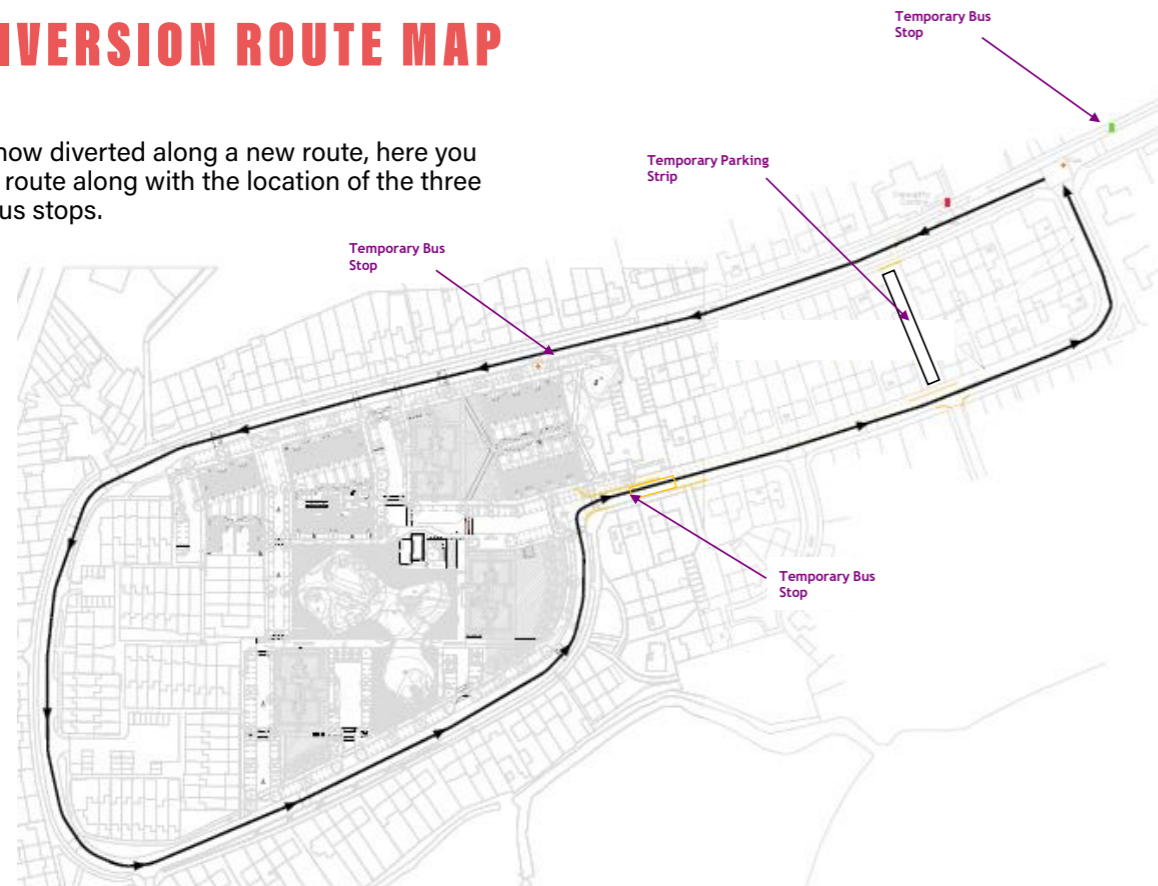
### **Utility companies on site**

SSE and Instalcom have started relocating cables on site to enable construction to proceed.

Thank you for your patience during the disruption this has caused – the work is expected to be completed by the end of the month.

## BUS DIVERSION ROUTE MAP

With buses now diverted along a new route, here you can see that route along with the location of the three temporary bus stops.



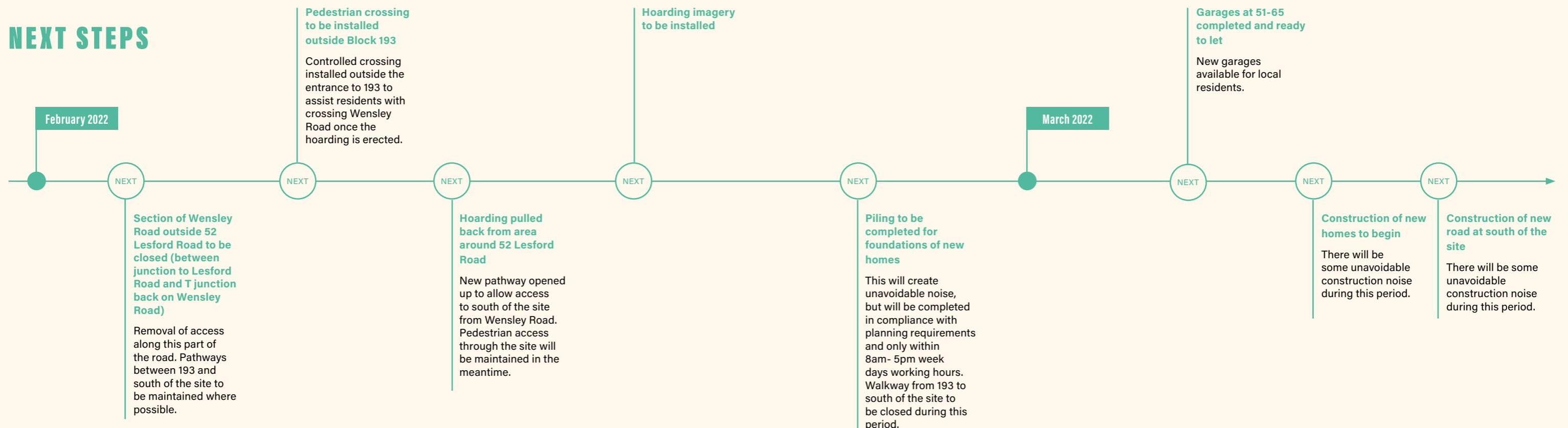
## THE FUTURE OF WENSLEY ROAD ESTATE

The progress of work you are now seeing will all culminate in widespread improvements across the estate that all residents can share, through new housing opportunities from the new homes in Phase 1 to the new entrances, windows, external wall materials and landscaping in Phase 2. This map shows how Wensley Road Estate will look when complete.

As work gets under way in earnest we anticipate that new parking areas will become available from this summer, new play areas in the Autumn and the new homes in Spring next year. The contractors will then complete the final landscaping of the area with phase one expected to end in September 2023.



## NEXT STEPS



Please note all dates are subject to change. Should changes on timings arise, further updates will be provided.





## NEW COURAGE PARK PLAYGROUND OPEN!

Just in time for February half-term, the new Courage Park playground opened last week. Year 3 and 4 pupils from St Mary & All Saints CE Primary School came along to the opening, and tested the wide range of engaging and accessible equipment for local children of varying ages. Along with our £116,200 investment in the park, we also negotiated an additional obstacle course to go along with the agreed play scheme for Courage Park within the original budget. Designed to appeal to older children, the extra obstacle course will include a climbing wall/net, overhead ladder with steps, balance beam, over and under bars and step pods. This will complement the new equipment coming in the form of a main multiplay unit featuring two slides, fireman's pole and a bridge, three-way see-saw, trampoline, swings and roundabout. The equipment is designed to be inclusive.

Although the MUGA by the blocks has now been closed, and will be removed to allow for the development work, there is one nearby in Courage Park close to the new playground, available for all to use.

**OPEN!**



## STAY IN TOUCH

If you need to contact the Council about the estate improvement programme, please call Reading Borough Council Property Development Team via the switchboard on **0118 9373737**, or email Helen Pickering via [propertydevelopmentteam@reading.gov.uk](mailto:propertydevelopmentteam@reading.gov.uk). If you would like to get more involved in the project through the Tenants' Panel, please contact Mary Hull - [mary.hull@reading.gov.uk](mailto:mary.hull@reading.gov.uk) - with your email, address, mobile number.

You can keep up to date with news on this project at [www.wensleyroadimprovements.co.uk](http://www.wensleyroadimprovements.co.uk)