

Meeting minutes

Euston Community Representatives Group (ECRG)

Meeting date

Thursday, 19 March 2026

Meeting location

The Euston Community Hub, North Gower Street, NW1

Meeting time

5:20pm – 7:00pm

Attendees

AA	Andrew Appiah	Deputy Director, Department for Transport
DA	David Auger	Camden Cutting Group, Rep for Clarkson Mornington TRA, CHARGE committee member
DD	David Demolder (Chair)	Euston Station IPT, Head of Operations and Stakeholder Management
DH	Dorothea Hackman*	Camden Civic Society, Netley Primary School, St Pancras Parish Church & Euston Foodbank
DHa	Dave Hannon	SCS
GM	Gareth McGaw	Senior Engagement and Interface Manager, HS2
HGT	Hero Granger-Taylor	Park Village East Heritage Group
JA	Juan Ares	Deputy Project Director, MDjv
JCo	Jonathan Cooke	ONW – Network Rail
JT	Jeff Travers	Primrose Hill, Gloucester Avenue
KH	Kamal Hanif	The Euston Partnership
MA	Mary-Ann Lewis	LB Camden
ME	Myrddin Edwards	The Euston Partnership
MH	Myall Hornsby	ONW – Network Rail
ND	Noemi Drew	Constituency Office Manager, Kier Starmer's Office
NDu	Neil Durrant	Head of Consents and Engagement – HS2 London Tunnels, SCS
NJ	Nick Jones	Project Client, HS2
NK	Natalie Kirkwood (minutes)	Senior Engagement Manager, MDjv
NVK	Neil Van Kervel	Senior Engagement Manager, SCS
PP	Paige Pryor	LB Camden
PL	Paul Leighton	Project Director, MDjv
PW	Peter Wilkinson	Director, Department for Transport
RC	Richard Crathern	HS2, Head of Delivery - SCS S1
RL	Robert Latham	Silsoe House
SC	Steve Christofi	Treasurer of the RPE TRA and HS2 Rep
SD	Slaney Devlin	Chair of Somers Town Neighbourhood Forum

SR	Sharon Rodney	LB Camden
UB	Ursula Brown	Regents Park Estate TRA
Apologies		
AR	Abbas Raza	TfL, Local Communities and Partnerships
CG	Chelsea Green	Network Rail
MB	Mary Burd*	Chair of Albert Street North Resident's Association - member of CHARGE and chairs LAEP
PB	Paul Braithwaite	Ex Chair, Air Quality AQGOST
SN	Sandra Nichols	Mornington Place Residents Association
SP	Simon Pitkeathley	Euston BID

*ECRG Contact Group

1. Welcome and Introductions

- 1.1 DD introduced the meeting and arrangement for raising questions and comments.

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting

- 2.1 The group **AGREED** the minutes of the November 2025 for publishing on the HS2 website.
- 2.2 **C:** At the last meeting HGT had queried what sections of the approach to Euston station were funded/in scope. DD used the previously circulated graphic on slide six of the March 2026 slide deck to show that there were no gaps.
- 2.3 **C:** RL commented on item 7.1 in the November 2025 minutes stating that there was an assurance not to remove the parapet wall which was taken down. He further commented on the hoardings that have replaced the wall that they do not have the same look and feel, which was also promised. The hoardings at Park Village East have deteriorated and he was first told this was due to local vandalism, however, it was subsequently confirmed that the deterioration was due to the type of material used. He would like these hoardings replaced as soon as possible as the look is unfair to residents. **A:** NVK clarified that the full hoardings will be replaced at the end of 2026 due to the need to install laybys first. **C:** RL commented that 80% of the hoardings need replacing and it needs to be completed before the end of the year. **A:** NVK commented that the material of the replaced hoardings will be the same as found around MDjv's site as it has a longer life shelf and the hoarding will be less affected by sunlight. **ACTION 382:** NVK to share the programme for hoarding replacement at Park Village East at the next meeting and report on the opportunity to bring this forward.

3. Actions Log

- 3.1 DD asked members to NOTE that actions 357, 373, and 374 would be closed.

4. HS2 Reset Update

- 4.1 It was NOTED that this item has been deferred to the June 2026 meeting as no announcements had been made.

5. DfT update - Euston Delivery Company (EDC)

- 5.1 AA introduced himself and gave an overview of the EDC, explaining the area it will be responsible for using a map with a red line boundary. Once established it will be responsible for overseeing one design and its delivery within the boundary.
- 5.2 EDC will come into authority in April 2026 and will differ from The Euston Partnership (TEP) in that it will be able to make decisions within its boundaries and agree trade-offs of responsibilities between the delivery partners (such as HS2 and Network Rail). It will be the directing mind for the design process.
- 5.3 **Q:** HGT queried what the funding for the tunnelling is. **A:** NJ clarified that the funding is agreed for the next five years for the entire HS2 route and that more information will be available once the HS2 reset is announced. JT requested ECRG briefing re Cutting tunnelling (following media articles). Details of the current funding can be found here [Spending Review 2025](#) (para 5.84 on page 81) and tunnelling commencement [Major milestone for HS2 as tunnelling to Euston starts - GOV.UK](#).
- 5.4 **Q:** SC asked if the EDC will have its own planning powers, or will they adhere to the Euston Area Plan. **A:** AA stated that they will be working closely with LB Camden. **A:** MAL further explained that a decision on the Development Corporation was yet to be made but it was expected that LB Camden would be the oversight authority and would expect that the Euston Area Plan would remain the main planning document for the area. MAL further confirmed that this would be the first locally led urban delivery corporation (LLUDC) in the country if confirmed.
- 5.5 **Q:** UB asked if LB Camden is the planning authority why do the HS2 works get omitted from other planning applications. This omission results in multiple works taking place at the same time. **A:** DD answered that the responsibility is on the developer to consider other works in the area, and one of the requirements of the planning process is to set up Construction Working Group and produce a Construction Management Plan, which demonstrates how other developments will be taken account of.
- 5.6 **C:** HGT commented that the area highlighted on slide 10 is HS2 and LB Camden have no authority on planning. **A:** MAL clarified that under the HS2 Act Deemed (outline) consent for the works is agreed. However, under schedule 17 of the Act the Council is able to review HS2 Schedule 17 applications based on four criteria.
- 5.7 **C:** DA commented that the way the process is designed versus how it actually works does not always align. Schedule 17 does not give LB Camden much power,

only such as over how the completed works will look. He did not feel TEP had done a good job. He also highlighted that during Select Committee stage he suggested that the HS2 terminus should be at OOC temporarily which was not supported, but this may be considered now.

- 5.8 C:** SC commented that in a previous ECRG LB Camden presented on their area plan and would welcome an update on this. **A:** MAL said she was happy to provide an update at the next meeting.
- 5.9 Q:** RL would welcome the Development Corporation being LB Camden led but queried if it will be officer or member led. **A:** MAL stated that this would need to be determined, but it would likely be led by the Leader of the Council with a majority independent board sitting beneath.
- 5.10 C:** JT stated that engagement is the primary issue of concern. JT referred to the previous independent chair of ECRG who stated that ECRG was meant to be a collaboration. JT said earlier collaboration regarding station integration revealed HS2/NR rejected integration. However, since that time, JT believes that information is not shared. JT wishes AA well and hopes that engagement can be reinstated.
- 5.11 C:** JT continued that engagement should be open and transparent which he does not think is happening right now. **C:** AA commented that the EDC would like to work in this way, but also said there would be times where we would not be in a position to and appreciated that would be frustrating. AA committed to have a representative from the EDC team at future ECRG meetings.
- 5.12 C:** DH stated that the fundamental problem with engagement is that information is not shared ahead of decision making.
- 5.13 C:** SD commented that the blight, accumulative impact is massive, and we should not underestimate the impact to the community's health and wellbeing and would welcome another look at the environmental impact assessment.
- 5.14 C:** DH would welcome some action to help the children in the area who have been living with this construction. This area is a home to 17000 individuals, whose trees have been cut down and pollution has increased. HS2 Euston is the biggest construction project in a densely populated area in the history of the UK so keep in mind the impact to this community. **C:** AA welcomed this feedback and is committed to striving to help the community and hold all to account.
- 5.15 C:** MH made reference to the HS2 Camden Local Area Engagement Plan that had been written in collaboration with residents and asked that EDC take account of this. **A:** GM responded to confirm that this document has been shared with EDC.

- 5.16 C:** DA thinks it is good to seek comments and feedback. The difficulty is honesty in engagement as he has been lied to previously. DA is looking for integrity going forward. **A:** AA welcomed this feedback and committed to EDC being open and honest.
- 5.17 C:** HGT wanted to share a tangible example of lying as mentioned by DA above. HGT stated that in January 2026 it was reported that the tunnelling from Old Oak Common was going to Euston Station. **Q:** HGT queried if HS2 will be removed from delivering HS2 Euston Station as outlined by the former Prime Minister. **A:** AA stated that HS2 still has an important role to play in delivering HS2 in Euston and that the government is currently looking for funding for the station. *Post meeting note: The tunnelling announcement can be found here [Major milestone for HS2 as tunnelling to Euston starts - GOV.UK](#).*
- 5.18 C:** SC commented that good engagement is where there is involvement in decisions as the people have the local knowledge of the area and to date, this has not been achieved which raises the level of frustration towards HS2 amongst the community. SC further explained that as tenants, there was no financial compensation and most people who live in the area are tenants. He continued that it would be helpful if people like him and others have a real stake in engagement, as this will show the community that their voices are being heard. SC concluded by stating that investment properties in the area are taking over the existing cohesive community that has been here for many years and he does not want it to be replaced.
- 5.19 C:** JT commented that fundamentals of ECRG as agreed in Select Committee needed reinstating. JT referenced the DfT's ESB ToR which highlights two-way ESB communication with ECRG as an engagement group. **C:** JT commented that now HS2 Euston Station is to be privately funded, via the adjacent development without OSD, JT is worried about expanding blight.
- 5.20 C:** JT stated that a starting point with the EDC should be transparency as well as presenting what TEP has achieved during their tenure. JT continued that EDC presentation aerial photo doesn't explain the Spatial Plan option sifting process. JT requested that at least have the process and decision making and TEP minutes need explaining.
- 5.21** PW from DfT introduced himself and explained that he is helping to set up the EDC. He commented that he had lived in Somers Town so knows the area well. PW thanked the attendees for their time and feedback and will continue to listen to their feedback and concerns around engagement.
- 5.22** PW assured ECRG members that the EDC will meet with them to share information. PW welcomed the suggestion to bring in insight and leadership from the local community.

- 5.23** PW further commented that the EDC will not be able to fix all concerns, however, he committed to being transparent even with decisions he knows people may not like.
- 5.24** PW concluded by saying that the EDC is a direct link into government via the Department for Transport and are building a good working relationship with LBC as this is what is best for the community.

6. HS2 Update

- 6.1 C:** DA commented that Mornington Terrace has been closed to vehicular traffic with no advanced notice to residents, which DH confirmed. **A:** NVK stated that the works are related to HS2 and notices were sent this year.
- 6.2 C:** DA commented on the language used on notices, notably the use of the term 'Euston Approaches'. DA further explained that he does not live in Euston but in Camden and it feels like the community is being erased. **A:** NVK explained that the term 'Euston Approaches' is used because it is the approach into Euston Station.
- 6.3 C:** DH commented on the lack of signage and notices for the closure of Mornington Terrace. **A:** NVK will reshare the notices and encouraged attendees to sign up for alerts. NVK further shared that at the start of each closure, advanced warning signs are placed in strategic locations. *Post meeting note: You can register for updates here [HS2 Email Form](#).*
- 6.4** NK updated on the on the alignment changes to the Drummond Street Walkway.
- 6.5 C:** JT commented on the walkway changes and said this should be looked at as a design opportunity suggesting that space might be created for local businesses perhaps selling food and beverages to trade from.
- 6.6 C:** SC and UB both commented on their dissatisfaction of the walkway changes as people with mobility impairments will have longer to walk to the Euston Network Rail platforms. In particular they were concerned about the increased distance they would need to walk to get to the side entrance to the station and also the bus station without having to use stairs or a ramp. The use of a ramp was much more difficult than walking on a flat surface for people using a stick. **A:** GM suggested an action to circulate additional information on the walkway alignment changes. *Post meeting note: A follow up session to provide more information in the walkway alignment has been arranged for Tuesday 7 April at 2pm (see email from Natalie Kirkwood for details). The papers from this session will be circulated afterwards to ECRG members.*
- 6.7 C:** SC commented on traffic management companies that HS2 use for highway works, stating that the contractors should be reviewed as they are not adhering to

agreed traffic management plans and there is also a lack of signage. SC commented that this a repeated occurrence.

- 6.8 C:** JT commented that he attended a SCS drop in event related to tunnelling. He remained concerned as there are no proposals to survey any properties north of Parkway/Gloucester Avenue. SCS had stated that they are monitoring settlement and the settlement is less than expected, and as such, JT would welcome a tunnelling working group to address concerns.
- 6.9 Q:** UB asked what authority HS2 has to close Hampstead Road as in Select Committee there were assurances the road would always remain open with two lanes of traffic and cycle lanes. **A:** RC confirmed that there is provision in the HS2 Act to allow for closures of Hampstead Road and he will clarify to attendees. **C:** DH commented that even if that is the case, the closure will create mayhem as this is a critical road and thoughts need to be given regarding pollution impacts and impacts to the blue lights' services. **A:** DD suggested a presentation on this at the next meeting.
- 6.10 Q:** HGT asked if ECRG would be told about the HS2 reset in June. **A:** DD explained that it was not known when the Reset would be made public, but a briefing would be provided at the following meeting. It was considered unlikely there would be a public announcement until after the local elections.

7. Community Questions / AOB

- 7.1 C:** DA requested the data for settlement along the line of route. he further commented that there are new issues emerging due to the delays in construction, which were not captured in the Environmental Statement.

8. Date of the next meeting

- 8.1** DD thanked the EDC representatives for their update and thanked the attendees for attending. It was noted that the next meeting date is **Thursday 4 June 2026** taking place in the Euston Community Hub on North Gower Street.