ROLLS-ROYCE | MEDIA INFORMATION

CHICHESTER MP OPENS NEW UPGRADED FOOTPATH

FOR ROLLS-ROYCE’S LOCAL COMMUNITY

Tuesday 3 December, Goodwood, West Sussex

* Jess Fuller-Brown, MP for Chichester, was guest of honour at a ceremonial walk to mark the official opening of the upgraded Footpath 417
* Footpath has been widened and resurfaced for all-year accessibility
* Land adjacent to footpath will be landscaped – initial works already underway
* Part of a planned ‘clean boots’ circular walk around the Home of Rolls-Royce
* Adds to environmental and community benefits from the Rolls-Royce extension project

*“Once fully operational, our landmark extension to the Home of Rolls-Royce will bring significant benefits to the local and national economies. Even at this early stage of construction, it’s already contributing considerable local amenity and environmental value through initiatives like this. Under our auspices, Footpath 417 has been transformed from a narrow, poorly surfaced track into a fully accessible route that is usable year-round, forming part of a broader network within our local area. We’re delighted to take this opportunity to develop and fund these important local amenities in close consultation with our partners at Westhampnett Parish Council, West Sussex County Council and local residents.”*

**Andrew Ball, Head of Corporate Relations and Heritage, Rolls-Royce Motor Cars**

Jess Brown-Fuller, Member of Parliament for Chichester, and Councillor Windsor Holden, Chair of Westhampnett Parish Council, were guests of honour during a ceremonial walk, hosted by Gunther Böhner, Director of Manufacturing at Rolls-Royce Motor Cars, to mark the official opening of the newly upgraded Footpath 417.

In this transformational project, the footpath’s rough, crumbling asphalt has been replaced with a new smooth surface; it has also been more than doubled in width to two metres. Together, these improvements make it usable by pedestrians all year round and in all weather conditions. To further enhance the user experience, new benches will be installed and the land adjacent to the footpath will be sensitively landscaped. Rolls-Royce has committed to achieving a Biodiversity Net Gain of more than 10% across the extension site, further enhancing the experience for users of the footpath.

The diversion and upgrades to Footpath 417 have been conducted in close consultation with Westhampnett Parish Council, West Sussex County Council and local residents; initial feedback gathered at two recent Neighbours’ Information Evenings held at the Home of Rolls-Royce has been overwhelmingly positive.

In the new year, a new permissive path will connect Footpath 417 to Footpath 416, creating a circular ‘clean boots’ route around Westhampnett and the Home of Rolls-Royce for the first time. Although not part of the planning consent, Rolls-Royce instigated and funded upgrades to Footpath 416 earlier this year. The upgrades have already proven very popular with the families of children attending The March CE Primary School in Westhampnett, as well as with local residents and leisure users.

The new extension represents the first major change to the physical footprint and facilities at the Home of Rolls-Royce since it opened in 2003. The project is crucial to the company’s long-term sustainability and prosperity; more than 2,500 people work at the Home of Rolls-Royce, at Goodwood, and the company supports more than 7,500 jobs in its wider supply chain. The luxury manufacturer contributes more than half a billion pounds to the UK economy every year, with a fifth generated locally in Chichester and West Sussex.

After completing her ‘official’ walk, Jess Brown-Fuller MP said, “It was fantastic to be given the opportunity to walk the new footpath, and to see the care that is being taken to make sure residents are being accommodated around Rolls-Royce’s planned extension. In rural communities like Westhampnett, residents know that local footways are a crucial link to our natural environment, so even small improvements can go a long way. I’d like to thank Rolls-Royce for inviting me along, to give me a chance to see how the Parish Council and Rolls-Royce are working in partnership to deliver new and improved local infrastructure.”

- ENDS -

FURTHER INFORMATION

You can find all our press releases and press kits, as well as a wide selection of high resolution, downloadable photographs and video footage at our media website, [PressClub](https://www.press.rolls-roycemotorcars.com/rolls-royce-motor-cars-pressclub).

You can also follow marque on social media: [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/rolls-royce-motor-cars/); [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/user/RollsRoyceMotorCars); [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/rollsroycecars/); and [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/rollsroycemotorcars).

EDITORS’ NOTES

Rolls-Royce Motor Cars is a true luxury house, creating the world’s most recognised, revered and desirable handcrafted Bespoke products for its international clientele.

There are over 2,500 people working at the Home of Rolls-Royce at Goodwood, West Sussex. This comprises both its global headquarters and Centre of Luxury Manufacturing Excellence – the only place in the world where Rolls-Royce motor cars are designed, engineered and meticulously built by hand. An [independent study](https://www.press.rolls-roycemotorcars.com/rolls-royce-motor-cars-pressclub/article/detail/T0414618EN/%C2%A34bn-for-uk-plc%E2%80%99%3A-rolls-royce-motor-cars-%E2%80%93-the-great-british-success-story) by the London School of Economics & Political Science confirms that since the company first launched at Goodwood in 2003, it has contributed more than £4 billion to the UK economy and adds more than £500 million in economic value every year.

Rolls-Royce Motor Cars is a wholly owned subsidiary of the BMW Group and is a completely separate, unrelated company from Rolls-Royce plc, the manufacturer of aircraft engines and propulsion systems.

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