



11 May 2007

**Photocall:**

**WHO:** Chairman of Warwickshire County Council, Councillor Chris Davis, Cllr Martin Heatley, Environment Portfolio Holder, James Plaskitt, M.P., Steve Walsh of Galliford Try and John Deegan, Strategic Director, County Council's Environment and Economy

**WHAT:** Official Opening of Barford Bypass

**WHEN:** 12.30 pm, Monday 14 May

**WHERE:** South end of the old Barford Bridge

### **Official Opening of Barford Bypass**

Barford Bypass will be officially opened at a ceremony which will take place on Monday 14 May 2007, at 12.30 pm at the south end of the old Barford Bridge.

Design of the 2.1km bypass was carried out by Warwickshire County Council, and the scheme has been built by Galliford Try Construction, starting in February 2006. Construction of the £10.38m bypass has proceeded faster than originally planned and the scheme has been completed about three months early.

Cllr Martin Heatley, Warwickshire County Council's Portfolio Holder for the Environment, said: "Building a new road today is a careful balance between its financial and environmental costs. The Council's commitment to building this road demonstrates that we have got the balance right and, as a result have obtained government funding.

“This new road is a tremendous example of cooperation between the public and private sectors. Working in partnership with Galliford Try Construction the County Council has demonstrated major engineering projects can be delivered efficiently. Thanks to this, the new bypass has been completed almost three months ahead of schedule.”

John Deegan, Strategic Director for Environment and Economy said:

“Although the people of Barford have had to wait for many years for their bypass I am sure that there will be few complaints at the time it has taken to build it. This is certainly the result of the expertise and commitment of my Directorate’s engineers who designed and supervised the scheme, working closely with our contractor.”

Steve Walsh, Managing Director - Infrastructure UK, Galliford Try Construction said: “This is one of many engineering projects which we have built in partnership with Warwickshire County Council and I am delighted that we have managed to complete this scheme three months ahead of schedule.”

The new road was actually open in February. This was to divert traffic onto the bypass so that the existing road into Barford from the north could be closed to traffic temporarily for the construction of a new flood culvert. Construction of this culvert has now been completed and the road reopened.

The bypass has now been fully completed and the temporary 30 mph speed limit has been removed and the speed limit on the bypass is now the national speed limit of 60 mph.

**Ends**

For more information contact Chris Horn. The telephone number is 01926 412677.

**Note to Editors:**

The invited guests for the Opening Ceremony will assemble at the Glebe Hotel, at 12.00pm, returning there for a buffet reception after the Ceremony. A coach will be provided for transport to and from the ceremony, and members of the press are welcome to join in with this.

