# Three-year, £5 million rebuild secures Wiltshire’s ‘wonkiest’ road for 120 years



The B4069 Lyneham Banks in Wiltshire has gained notoriety as the UK's 'wonkiest' road, a title that speaks to the remarkable challenges posed by its recent history. Following a substantial landslip triggered by Storm Eunice in February 2022, the road was rendered 'impossible' to drive on after being displaced approximately 25 metres downhill. This unique phenomenon, caused by excessive rainfall saturating the ground and destabilising the soil, transformed the cracked roadway into an unofficial playground for BMX riders and skateboarders during its closure.

The road’s closure has had a significant impact on local communities, disrupting daily commutes and cutting off critical routes used by an estimated 5,500 vehicles daily. Wiltshire Council's efforts to address the damaging landslip were extensive, marked by months of delay as they assessed the full extent of the damage and devised an effective repair strategy. The repair project, which commenced in earnest in July 2024, was not merely a restoration of asphalt; it involved a comprehensive stabilization effort that included pouring 650 cubic metres of concrete and injecting 2,370 bags of grout into the hillside to reinforce the surrounding ground.

After three years, the £5 million project was completed, with the road finally reopening to traffic on April 2, 2025. Local authorities are hopeful that the repairs will last around 120 years. Parvis Khansari from Wiltshire Council remarked on the significant community impact, expressing gratitude for the public's patience. “This reopening marks a significant milestone, ensuring safer and more reliable journeys for all who use the road,” he said.

Chris Hudson, the Operations Director of Octavius Infrastructure, articulated the creativity required to manage shifting ground conditions. Not only did his team restore the carriageway, they also incorporated innovative drainage systems and constructed a substantial retaining wall to prevent future landslips—measures designed to fortify the road against the ever-present risk of erosion and flooding that continues to challenge the region. The rebuilding effort required the re-use of 1,500 cubic metres of excavated material and the planting of over 600 plants in an attempt to stabilise the ecosystem around the restoration site.

Despite the challenges, the project emerged when the community, often defined by the landscape, was most in need of connectivity and accessibility. The B4069’s return to usability not only signifies an engineering achievement but reinforces a commitment to community resilience in the face of climate events. The former BMX playground has been transformed back into a vital transport link, an essential artery for local traffic that allows the residents of Wiltshire to reclaim their routes with renewed confidence.

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.mirror.co.uk/travel/news/uks-wonkiest-road-driving-impossible-35339321), [[4]](https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2025/apr/02/buckled-wiltshire-road-b4069-near-lyneham-used-as-skate-park-repaired)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.mirror.co.uk/travel/news/uks-wonkiest-road-driving-impossible-35339321), [[2]](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cp9rdzjzjg5o), [[5]](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-wiltshire-67690400)
* Paragraph 3 – [[3]](https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/news/lyneham-banks-reopens-after-landslip-and-rebuild), [[6]](https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/article/9378/Cabinet-to-consider-appointment-of-contractor-to-rebuild-the-B4069-Lyneham-Banks)
* Paragraph 4 – [[6]](https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/article/9378/Cabinet-to-consider-appointment-of-contractor-to-rebuild-the-B4069-Lyneham-Banks)

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.mirror.co.uk/travel/news/uks-wonkiest-road-driving-impossible-35339321> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cp9rdzjzjg5o> - The B4069 Lyneham Banks in Wiltshire, severely damaged by a landslip in February 2022, is expected to reopen in spring 2025. The £5 million repair project involves stabilising the hillside and rebuilding the road, which was previously used by about 5,500 vehicles daily. The landslip moved approximately 90 metres of the carriageway 40 metres downhill, leading to a unique engineering challenge. ([bbc.co.uk](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cp9rdzjzjg5o?utm_source=openai))
3. <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/news/lyneham-banks-reopens-after-landslip-and-rebuild> - Wiltshire Council reopened the B4069 Lyneham Banks on 2 April 2025 after a major landslip in February 2022 displaced the road 25 metres downhill. The £5 million project included pouring 650 cubic metres of concrete and 2,370 bags of grout into the ground, reusing 1,500 cubic metres of excavated material, and planting over 600 plants. The repairs are designed to last around 120 years. ([wiltshire.gov.uk](https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/news/lyneham-banks-reopens-after-landslip-and-rebuild?utm_source=openai))
4. <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2025/apr/02/buckled-wiltshire-road-b4069-near-lyneham-used-as-skate-park-repaired> - The B4069 near Lyneham, severely damaged by a landslip in February 2022, has been repaired and reopened after three years. The £5 million project restored the 140-metre stretch of road, which had shifted 25 metres downhill, and briefly became a playground for skateboarders and BMX riders. The road was previously used by over 5,500 vehicles daily. ([theguardian.com](https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2025/apr/02/buckled-wiltshire-road-b4069-near-lyneham-used-as-skate-park-repaired?utm_source=openai))
5. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-wiltshire-67690400> - The B4069 between Lyneham and Chippenham, known as Lyneham Banks, was closed in February 2022 after Storm Eunice caused significant damage. Wiltshire Council aimed to reopen the road by early 2025, with a multi-million-pound solution including new drainage features and a 109-metre stretch of wall to stabilise the bank and road. ([bbc.com](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-wiltshire-67690400?utm_source=openai))
6. <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/article/9378/Cabinet-to-consider-appointment-of-contractor-to-rebuild-the-B4069-Lyneham-Banks> - Wiltshire Council's Cabinet considered awarding the contract to rebuild the B4069 Lyneham Banks, which had been closed since February 2022 due to a major landslip. The £5 million project involves constructing a retaining wall using bored piles and ground anchors, along with drainage systems to manage groundwater flows. ([wiltshire.gov.uk](https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/article/9378/Cabinet-to-consider-appointment-of-contractor-to-rebuild-the-B4069-Lyneham-Banks?utm_source=openai))
7. <https://www.itv.com/news/westcountry/2024-05-10/britains-wonkiest-road-to-be-repaired-two-years-after-landslip> - Work to repair the B4069 at Lyneham Banks, dubbed 'Britain's wonkiest road' after a landslip in February 2022, was set to begin in summer 2024. The road had been closed since the landslip, which caused parts of it to fall more than 25 metres down the hillside. The £5 million project was expected to reopen the road in spring 2025. ([itv.com](https://www.itv.com/news/westcountry/2024-05-10/britains-wonkiest-road-to-be-repaired-two-years-after-landslip?utm_source=openai))