Falling Sands Viaduct - Frequently Asked Questions

What's wrong with the Viaduct?	Over the years, water has seeped into the 142-year-old viaduct causing it to crack and erode. Urgent works are needed to ensure the loop line is useable and Kidderminster station remains connected to the rest of the Severn Valley line.
When does the work start on site?	The track was lifted on 30/31st December which marks the start of Phase 1. Our Contractors, Walsh, now have control of the site until this phase is completed.
What is going to happen and when? Phase I & Phase 2	Civils Drainage (Dec 2019 – April 2020) Contractors will remove the track, ballast and sandstone rubble. New Drainage channels will be installed along with a waterproof membrane before everything is put back together.
	Civils Brickwork (Summer 2020) – whilst trains are operating. In the Summer, after the structure has dried out, damaged bricks will be replaced and mortar repointed.
Activities and Events	Started in June 2019 on going until May 2021 There are lots of things taking place – here are just a few: Schools activities, including visits to the site for local primary schools A research project An oral history project to record people's experiences of SVR
	 An arts project with local young people Hard-hat tours A games project with Kidderminster College Training for volunteers – current and new Victorian activities to share the history of the viaduct Geology walks Music and performances
	A canal side festival
Interpretation/Exhibitions at the Engine House and on 2886 Stove R	 Engine House – from Easter 2020 A new FSV area with viaduct games, dressing up clothes and tools Characters who will share the stories of the viaduct and loop-line and explain the importance of SVR throughout history. 2886 Launches at the Spring Steam Gala 2020 Sights, sounds and smells of the railway – which can be experienced both in dock and whilst the train is in motion.
When will the line be reopened?	The loop line is due to reopen 4th April 2020. Trains will operate from Bewdley to Bridgnorth during February half term and weekends in March 2020.
How much will the project cost?	£1.3million is the total project cost £969,100 – civils works £245,300 – activities, events and interpretation (£77,600 in volunteer hours / £8,000 in management and maintenance)
Where is the money coming from?	£357,000 was raised by donations from local people and businesses, Trusts and Foundations and the 'Helping Hands for Falling Sands' donation wall campaign. £853,000 has been awarded from the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF)
Why are we doing activities and events as part of the project?	As well as being an important way to share the project and SVR, when we applied to NLHF we had to include lots of ways to engage people and communities, along-side the capital works in order to meet their mandatory criteria.
Where can people find out more?	www.fallingsandsviaduct.org.uk Instagram @fallingsandsviaduct
I have more questions	Contact Laura Hines, Activity & Interpretation Manager 01562 757940 / 07539
about the project – what do I do?	366820 / email laura.hines@svrtrust.org.uk or the Project Manager, Francesca (Frankie) Spickernell Francesca.spickernell@svrtrust.org.uk