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Page 1 of 2

“Dudley Ward Tunnel Re-opens on Tuesday of this week after major civil engineering works to make safe the approach to it.”

Dudley Ward Tunnel re-opens on Tuesday afternoon following the completion of major civil engineering works to re route the approach to the tunnel entrance, to make it safe from rock falls and other road works.

The works, which have cost £10.6 millions include significant re landscaping of the whole area, and the building of a 100 metre long, reinforced concrete canopy leading to the tunnel entrance.

The opportunity has also been taken to upgrade and resurface the road leading to the tunnel, and the road within the tunnel itself. Also, new and much improved lighting has been installed along the whole length of Dudley Ward Tunnel, and street lighting has been installed along Europa Advance Road.

No Street parking at Both Worlds.

The tunnel will operate for two-way traffic. Accordingly, the temporary street parking near Both Worlds will be discontinued. This parking would render normal two way traffic impossible. Around 20 parking spaces, exclusively for residents of Both Worlds will be provided in the nearby lay-by known as “Media Luna”. This will operate as a “Both World Residents’ permit holders only” parking.

Inauguration.

The tunnel and new infrastructure will be inaugurated by the Chief Minister at a ceremony on site on Tuesday at 12.00 noon.

Page 2 of 2

The late Brian Navarro.

It will be recalled that a young Gibraltarian, Brian Navarro was tragically killed by a rock fall while approaching Dudley Ward Tunnel on 18th February 2002.

The opening ceremony will therefore include the unveiling of a plaque to commemorate Brian Navarro. The unveiling will be performed by Brian's father, John Navarro in the presence of family and friends.

To further remember Brian Navarro, the approach road leading to Dudley Ward Tunnel, from the Comcen tunnel entrance to the Dudley Ward Tunnel entrance, including the road under the new canopy, will be renamed "Brian Navarro Way". The tunnel through the Rock itself will continue to be named "Dudley Ward Way".

All family and friends of the late Brian Navarro are invited to attend the ceremony. Cars should be parked at the Devil's Tower Road Multi-storey car park (free), from where buses will convey those who wish to attend to Dudley Ward Way.

Chief Minister Peter Caruana said:-

"This is a large scale and impressive civil engineering job. The project has not only made safe from rock falls the access to Dudley Ward Tunnel, but has also upgraded the road surface and street lighting from Both Worlds to the Europa Point roundabout. It represents another very significant investment in Gibraltar's road network and traffic flow enhancement, which provides a two-way alternate route around the Rock, thus further contributing to the measures to address Gibraltar's traffic flow issues under the Government's Integrated Traffic, Parking and Transport Plan."