



**Corporate Policy and  
Resources Committee**

**Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> December  
2022**

**Subject: Supplementary Estimate – Saxilby Footbridge Capital Works**

Report by:

Director of Corporate Services

Contact Officer:

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Purpose / Summary:

To provide approval for additional capital funds to be allocated from the Capital Receipts Reserve to enable the refurbishment of Saxilby Footbridge.

**RECOMMENDATION(S):**

1. To approve a further allocation of £150,000 from the Capital Receipts Reserve to enable the refurbishment of Saxilby Footbridge to take place subject to a further tender exercise.

**IMPLICATIONS**

**Legal:**

The obligation for maintenance of the Saxilby Footbridge lies with West Lindsey District Council.

Procurement will be carried out via ProContracts portal to secure a suitable contractor to carry out the repairs on the footbridge.

**Financial :**

The preferred option is to repair the bridge off site, the estimated costing of the work is in the region of £250K. The work was originally approved and carried forward from the 2021/22 budget when an estimated cost for the works was approved at £100K.

The repairs to the bridge have a lifespan of approximately 20 years and as part of the budget approval process a proposal will be brought forward to create a specific earmarked reserve to enable the Council to grow the budget for work required in 20 years.

The Council seeks to fund the supplementary budget from the Capital Receipts Reserve.

**Staffing :**

If approved the works will be procured, managed and monitored using existing staff structures and staffing budgets.

**Equality and Diversity including Human Rights :**

There are no direct impacts from this report.

**Data Protection Implications:**

None arising from this report.

**Climate Related Risks and Opportunities:**

The Council's Climate, Environment and Sustainability Impact Assessment has been undertaken and there are no direct implications from this report.

**Section 17 Crime and Disorder Considerations:**

None arising from this report

**Health Implications:**

Restoration of the footbridge provides a safe route to cross the Canal.

**Title and Location of any Background Papers used in the preparation of this report :**

The original budget was approved as part of Item 10A – meeting of West Lindsey District Council 1 March 2021.

**Risk Assessment :**

The original estimation for works done was carried out during 2020-21, since this time we have seen a shortage of construction workers, materials and significant inflation, all of which have contributed to a significant difference between the original estimate and recent cost intelligence.

The Council must continue to carry out repair works to ensure that the bridge remains safe and operational.

Canal and Rivers Trusts requirements will need to be met in carrying out these works alongside consent from landowners. Communication with stakeholder is key as is limiting the period of closure when the bridge is taken away for repair.

**Call in and Urgency:**

**Is the decision one which Rule 14.7 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules apply?**

*i.e. is the report exempt from being called in due to urgency (in consultation with C&I chairman)*

**Yes**

**No**

**X**

**Key Decision:**

*A matter which affects two or more wards, or has significant financial implications*

**Yes**

**No**

**X**

## **Executive Summary**

The purpose of this report is to seek supplementary budget to enable comprehensive off-site repair and paint works to the Saxilby Footbridge. The last works carried out were in 2009 when the decking boards were replaced and the bridge was repainted in situ without removal.

The original budget allocated to the project was £100,000 for a full off- site renewal in 2021/22. The details of these works are provided at 1.4 below. The current estimate for these works are approximately £250,000.

Works conducted over water are operationally difficult and high risk to both individuals and the environment as well as being disruptive. There is also guidance produced by the Canal and Rivers Trust (April 2019) which advises that works undertaken should be specified that works undertaken should be specified reduce the need for future maintenance and navigation closures. By performing a high - quality off-site repair and renewal of the bridge, it is expected that works would prolong the life of the bridge and negate any future works for between 15 and 20 years.

The works not only deliver our operational obligations but also demonstrate the Council's commitment to area improvement and proactive maintenance works. The Conservation area where the bridge resides is sited in an "at risk" area and it is hoped that these works will contribute to remove the site from the "at risk" area.

### **1.0 Summary and Findings**

- 1.1 In 2021, in line with the committed budget the Property and Assets engaged surveyors and structural engineers to advise and create a specification to remove the bridge and carry out renewal works. The works were advertised on our contracts portal. Only one tender submission was received and a quotation of approximately £160,000 was received. This exceeded the budget put in place.
- 1.2 As a result of the lack and level of quotations a meeting was held with local suppliers where it was determined that there was limited interest in tendering for these works during a period of high demand and the requirements of our specification.
- 1.3 Having been unable to obtain a satisfactory bid for the works, and due to the seasonal restrictions of delivery it was decided the project should be temporarily suspended until 2022 to allow for further project review and investigation of work methodology to address the concerns raised previously by the market.
- 1.4 In an attempt to deliver a renewal within budget, a revised tender purely for scrape and pain works in situ was advertised in June 2022. However, only one bidder submitted a tender with a cost of approximately £145,000 for the minimal works. This still exceeded the original budget but only delivered minimal change. It was then decided that further options should be considered as it may deliver better value

for money to provide the originally more comprehensive off-site renewal.

- 1.5 This specification included shot-blasting of all steel works, removing all paint and rust, welding gaps in steelwork, replacement of bolts as well as reinstatement of the decking boards, electric cable and paint coats which provide a 15-20 year life for the bridge.
- 1.6 Soft market testing has taken place and even with the crane hire and transportation costs, highways consents and temporary removal of the bridge from site a cost of £250,000 was estimated.
- 1.7 The maximum repair off-site would allow for a better-quality finish and full repair and renewal providing a longer life to the asset and lower maintenance costs over the next ten years.