

3284 Banbury Lane Bridge, Rothersthorpe

Banbury Lane Bridge is a 6.75m single span masonry structure carrying the C86 Banbury Lane between Rothersthorpe and Hunsbury Meadows.

On the 1st December 2017 the bridge was struck by an errant vehicle causing significant damage to the north parapet. The structure has sustained significant damage and loss of stonework as a result of the impact.

We are pursuing a claim for the costs of the damage through our insurance team.

Immediate Action

Following notification of the incident Northamptonshire Highways assessed the viable options in relation to traffic management moving forward.

In order to protect the damaged area on the north parapet, temporary traffic signals and concrete barriers were implemented to reduce the likelihood of another bridge strike during the organisation of the repairs.

This has created a single lane of traffic which will remain in place until the repairs are undertaken and the bridge reopened.

Scheme Preparation

Work has commenced to address all issues caused by the impact damage

The physical site work items are as follows;

- Retrieval of stonework from the watercourse and adjacent embankment.
- Repair/replacement of the damaged stonework section on the north parapet.

As part of the scheme preparation works there are a number of consents / surveys / approvals that are required;

- An environmental assessment and subsequent consent application to the Environment Agency is required. The structure is located over a main river and in a Flood Zone 3, with a high probability for flooding. This informs access and construction arrangements. The EA have 2 months from receipt of our application to approve our proposals.
- Temporary works design and approval.
- Temporary traffic regulation order to close the road.

Subject to the consents/approvals process going smoothly the estimated start on site date is November 2018, with completion within the same month.

Traffic Management

The traffic management currently in place is temporary traffic signals and concrete barriers. This was assessed to be the most viable option to secure the safety of the public and the structure from further damage. The length of the closure incorporates the canal bridge towards the east approach, because there is insufficient spacing for traffic lights between the bridges.

The traffic management is being inspected daily by our specialist traffic management consultant. They inspect the traffic management in place and replace any cones, lights, batteries that require regular maintenance.

The current traffic management will remain in place until the scheme has been completed.



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Northamptonshire Highways

General

Damage caused by poor/careless driving is having a significant impact on bridges within Northamptonshire.

At present we have 12 major vehicular impact damage schemes, plus numerous minor guardrail repairs, damage again caused by vehicular impact.

Added to which we have the ongoing bridge maintenance programme to help to prevent the bridges deteriorating further.

Whilst the impact damage is prioritised over the bridge maintenance programme it is still important to carry on with maintenance work.

All of which is being undertaken with very limited resources.

We are aware that the bridge provides an important access between Rothersthorpe and Hunsbury Meadows, we are expediting the works as much as is possible.

We will keep all affected parties informed as the scheme progresses.

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