



MONMOUTHSHIRE AND BRECON CANAL - CRUMLIN ARM WORKING GROUP – 9TH FEBRUARY 2017

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE CANAL

REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR - COMMUNITIES

1. MAINTENANCE UPDATE

1.1 Canal Channel

Weed cutting/channel maintenance was undertaken in October 2016 and was closely monitored by both Officers from Ecology and the Engineering Projects Group. The works passed without incident, and the channel was successfully cleared, including the stretch at Temperance Hill/Navigation Road.

1.2 Grass Maintenance

The first cut of the season is programmed for March 2017. The exact timing will depend on how mild the winter has been and the type of spring experienced across the county borough. The cutting will progress to the agreed regime and include the amended cutting patterns along the Manor Road section.

2. 2017/2018 WORKS PROGRAMME

2.1 Towpath

No works planned for this year.

2.2 Access Enhancement

No works planned for this year.

2.3 Water Control

No works planned for the remainder of this financial year.

2.4 Dredging

No works planned for the remainder of this year.

2.5 Tree Maintenance

A tree survey over the full length of the Canal has been commissioned and is due to commence shortly, together with tree maintenance which is programmed for February 2017 and includes low-lying branches that currently obstruct passage along the Canal channel.

2.6 External Funding

Officers within CCBC's Economic Development section are currently working with neighbouring authorities to compile bids in an attempt to secure funding for further improvements at key areas along the Canal and it is understood that this is progressing well and in this respect the use of the Canal capital funding as match funding is being considered.

2.7 Channel Leak Repair

The second phase of works is well underway but has experienced some delay due to unforeseen site conditions which has added possibly 8 to 10 weeks to the overall contract period, giving a revised completion date of the end of March 2017.

2.8 Emergency Works

There have been no defects requiring emergency action identified during this period.

3. FUNDING

3.1 Capital

The capital budget allocation for 2016/17 has been confirmed as £212k plus a £209k carry over from 2015/16, giving a total budget of £421k. This funding will be used to complete the channel leak repair at Pontywaun.

Anticipated funding for 2017/18 currently stands at £212k which will be used to progress Phase 3 of the channel leak repair works at Pontywaun.

3.2 Revenue

The budget for 2016/17 is confirmed as £100k, of which £61k has been spent to date, with the balance identified for both the tree survey and maintenance works. The anticipated budget for 2017/18 currently stands at £100k.

4. BOATS

4.1 No update in this respect.

5. CANAL MAINTENANCE

5.1 No works programmed for the remainder of this year.

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