



MONMOUTHSHIRE AND BRECON CANAL - CRUMLIN ARM WORKING GROUP – 8TH FEBRUARY 2018

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE CANAL

REPORT BY: INTERIM CORPORATE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITIES

1. MAINTENANCE UPDATE

1.1 Canal Channel

Efforts were made to undertake weed cutting/channel maintenance in December 2017 but due to difficulties in securing availability with the specialist contractor this was not possible. It has now been decided to put back planned weed cutting until the autumn.

1.2 Grass Maintenance

The first cut of the season will be undertaken in March 2018. 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

General maintenance will be carried out.

2.2 Access Enhancement

General maintenance to paved surfaced areas in the form of weed clearance and power washing will be undertaken shortly, together with the painting of all street furniture and fencing. Existing hoop barriers where damaged or missing will be replaced, as will all of the locks on the various gate access points.

2.3 Water Control

No works are planned for the remainder of this financial year.

2.4 Dredging

No works are planned for the remainder of this year.

2.5 Tree Maintenance

Tree maintenance commenced on Monday 29th January 2018 and will deal with low lying branches that currently obstruct passage along the canal channel, and any trees requiring trimming back as identified in the February 2017 survey.

2.6 External Funding

Officers within CCBC's Regeneration and Planning Division are currently working with neighbouring authorities to compile bids in an attempt to secure funding for further improvements at key areas along the Canal. 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 has been completed. Phase 3 works are being designed at present and will be tendered in May of this year. The length of Canal to be addressed in this phase will extend from the downstream terminus of Phase 1 down to the Pontywaun overbridge.

2.8 Emergency Works

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

3. FUNDING

3.1 Capital

A capital budget allocation for 2018/19 is anticipated to be confirmed as £212k plus the £149k carry over from 2017/18, giving a total budget of £361k. This funding will be used to complete the Phase 3 channel lining works at Pontywaun.

3.2 Revenue

The budget for 2017/18 was £105k and current spend commitments should see this spent in full. The anticipated budget for 2018/19 currently stands at £105k.

4. BOATS

4.1 No update in this respect.

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