



MONMOUTHSHIRE AND BRECON CANAL - CRUMLIN ARM WORKING GROUP – 18TH OCTOBER 2018

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE CANAL

REPORT BY: INTERIM CORPORATE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITIES

1. MAINTENANCE UPDATE

1.1 Canal Channel

Weed cutting/channel maintenance is planned to start week commencing 15th October 2018, this will be closely monitored by officers.

1.2 Grass Maintenance

The last cut of the season was recently completed. The cutting during this visit is extended down to the water's edge and any self-seeded saplings are removed at the same time from the canal banks.

2. 2018/2019 WORKS PROGRAMME

2.1 Towpath

All paved areas along the canal towpath where jet washed, weeds were removed and a weed killer applied, this work was undertaken in March 2018.

2.2 Access Enhancement

All existing street furniture and fencing was painted in March. Existing hoop barriers where damaged or missing were replaced, the replacement barriers now have an integral lock which is less prone to vandalism, all missing locks on the various gate access points have been replaced.

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

Extensive tree maintenance works are currently ongoing; this has been made necessary by the discovery of Ash Dieback over the full length of the canal. This is likely to have a significant impact on the wooded fringes of the canal.

2.6 External Funding

Officers within CCBC's Regeneration and Planning Division as part of the Mon & Brec Canal Adventure Triangle bid have successfully secured funding to the value of £678,571.00, all works associated with this funding are to be completed by December 2020. Officers are currently looking at priorities in this respect.

2.7 Channel Leak Repair

The third phase of works is being designed at present and will be tendered in early in the New 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.

There is currently an issue with water loss at the aqueduct and officers are reviewing options to deal with this.

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 2018/19 was £105k and current spend commitments should see this spent in full.

4. BOATS

4.1 No update in this respect.

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