

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<i>Mill Meadow Chalfont St Peter – Bridge major works</i>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<i>Cllr M Smith Environment Portfolio Holder</i>
<b>RESPONSIBLE OFFICER</b>	<i>Chris Marchant, Head of Environment</i>
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<b>WARD/S AFFECTED</b>	<i>Chalfont St Peter</i>

## 1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To update Members on the progress of the project and seek approval of the additional capital funding required.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. To recommend to Council to increase the Capital programme allocation from £369,000 to £420,000 to enable this scheme to proceed.**

## 2. Reasons for Recommendations

- 2.1 CDC has an obligation to repair the bridge and maintain vehicular access to the users of Mill Meadow while the bridge is being replaced. The bridge is structurally unsound and needs to be replaced to increase the loading capacity to 40 tonnes.

## 3. Content of Report

### Background

- 3.1 The existing old bridge has been tested and can only take a maximum load of 3 tonnes due to structural inadequacies and the structural advice is that the bridge needs to be rebuilt. Maximum 3 tonnes signs have been erected. The new bridge needs to be built to a minimum capacity of 40 tonnes to take the traffic using the complex including, emergency vehicles, waste transport vehicles and to deal with any future construction traffic for example if the community centre is rebuilt. The new bridge will have minimum 40 year life with routine inspection maintenance could extend this life.
- 3.2 Initial approval was received in April 2016 for an estimated initial budget of £225,000 for the bridge replacement before full detailed design work and testing had been carried out. Subsequently in May 2016 Kier were commissioned under the Scape Framework to undertake full design and construction of a replacement bridge including a temporary bridge to function during construction works.
- 3.3 The initial design was undertaken by Keir and we were advised that their likely cost estimate was now £369,000. The capital programme was therefore increased in February 2017 to £369,000.

### Discussion

- 3.4 Following the tender of the works by Kier to their subcontractors the anticipated costs have increased slightly above the current approved budget. Kier have now been instructed to establish a more economical method of construction. Final surveys of the existing bridge abutments to determine suitability for retention and use have been undertaken by Kier. These surveys have enabled Kier to confirm the expected new bridge costs to £390,000 to which a potential risk element of £30,000 should be added for any unforeseen costs during the works. The design risk rests with Kier but any unforeseen risks such as uncovering archaeology of excessive flooding during construction would rest with the Council.
- 3.5 Chiltern District Council Planning Department have confirmed that planning approval is not required but building regulation approval will be required. Highway approval is not required as it is a private bridge but environment agency consent to the work will be obtained.
- 3.6 Subject to the approval of the additional funding required for this project the project would commence around May 2018 and should take 3 months to complete. All the tenants on site and other users would be informed of the proposed works through usual publicity and direct letters / liaison. The design of the bridge is detailed at **Appendix A** and has been agreed by the Parish Council. Elements will be powder coated black.

## **4. Consultation**

- 4.1 Consultation will take place in place with all users to plan the installation. .

## **5. Corporate Implications**

- 5.1 The financial implications of this matter are increasing the capital programme from £369,000 to £420,000.
- 5.2 There are no legal restrictions preventing the scheme progressing and Chiltern is the landowner and owner of the bridge. Mill Meadow is public open space and CDC has an obligation to ensure it is accessible safely.

## **6. Links to Council Policy Objectives**

- 6.1 Objective 1 – Efficient and effective customer focused services.
- 6.2 Objective 3 – Conserve the environment and promote sustainability.

## **7. Next Step**

- 7.1 Proceed to build new bridge once the capital funding has been approved.

<b>Background Papers:</b>	None other than those referred to in the report.
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