

RECONSTRUCTION OF BELL BRIDGE AND BELL LONNING

Progress Report at 20/10/2017

Following establishment of our site compound, and diversion of the 11kv overhead electric cables on 23 July, reconstruction work is now progressing well and remains generally on programme. An ecological survey was undertaken before work commenced and a temporary footbridge erected to allow safe access.

Following installation of the sheet pile walling to the abutments, excavation was completed into the mudstone bedrock to allow construction of the reinforced concrete abutment bases and walls. In total 92m³ of concrete was placed in four pours.

Precast concrete units were delivered from the casting yard in Northern Ireland with all abutment and training wall units have been installed to allow the stone masons to commence the masonry cladding. Drainage and backfilling is progressing behind the wingwalls.

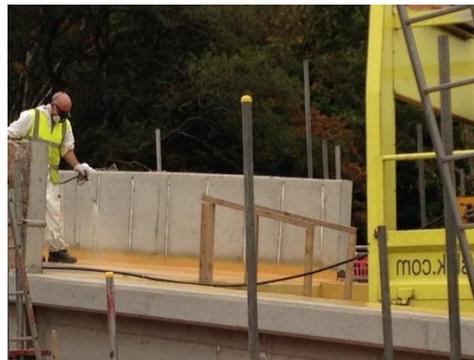
The deck assembly was lifted into position by a 350t crane in mid September. This allowed the reinforced concrete deck to be poured on 22 September when 24m³ of concrete was placed by a pump located on the west bank. This has also facilitated removal of the temporary workforce footbridge. The reinforced concrete parapet wall has been cast and masonry facing completed to the external faces. Spray applied waterproofing has now been applied to the bridge deck which will be protected by a sand carpet. This will allow the inside masonry face to be completed ready for the carriageway surfacing. The precast parapet wingwalls with insitu-concrete above have now been completed. All in river works are also complete with backfilling and reinstatement of the riverbanks taking place as the masonry is completed.

Following consultation with the Parish Council and local residents, the County Planners have asked that we use reclaimed masonry, mainly from the old bridge, throughout which is taking more time to prepare. We now hope to be finished work in early December. An interpretive feature and seat on the west bank will provide a record of the various bridges on this site along with some re planting of trees and landscaping.

A dive inspection of the river by Bell Lonning was carried out in mid September. The results of the dive inspection will enable a temporary repair (to be implemented this year) and a permanent solution for the Lonning (to be implemented in summer 2018). The temporary repair will consist of the verge being hardened (using highways land only) to allow Bell Lonning to be re-opened to light traffic to coincide with the re-opening of Bell bridge.



Pull off test and waterproofing to deck



John Slee Project Manager



Masonry facing to parapets and wingwalls
Story Contracting 20/10/17

