

TICKFORD BRIDGE BRASS LAMP REFURBISHMENT 2017



Tickford Bridge is located near the historic centre of Newport Pagnell and was built in 1810 as a toll bridge to carry Tickford Street (B526) across the River Ouzel and is an Ancient Monument Grade 1 Listed structure, it is a fine example of early cast iron engineering surviving in near original condition whilst still carrying modern traffic.

This bridge is the fourth oldest existing cast iron bridge in the UK and is one of only three surviving bridges (only two in this country) cast by Walker and Co of Rotherham, Yorkshire. The bridge was jointly designed by Thomas Wilson (1751-1820) Engineer of Sunderland and Henry Provis (1760-1830) Engineer to the Grand Junction Canal and followed Wilson's patented method for the construction of this type of arch.



Why is the refurbishment work required?

The two brass framed lamps that now contain modern electric lighting have become weak due to age and the brass framework has become brittle. Due to the fragile nature of the lamps they were removed in February 2017 and kept in safe storage. Each lamp has required more frequent repair work each year after storms, high winds and changing of electrical fittings so Milton Keynes Council Structures team has sent them away for strengthening. It is expected that the lamps will look exactly the same externally and the new framework fitted inside the existing frame so that it is largely unnoticeable. A company known as Dorothea Restorations of Bristol have been chosen to carry out the repairs after consultation with and recommendation of Historic England (formerly English Heritage).

The Lighting team also need to update the wiring circuits currently feeding the lamps and will complete this once the lamps are returned.

How will the works affect road users & pedestrians?

The first lamp is due to be repaired in July 2017 and the second later this year. Unfortunately there is a seemingly long time for the repair works to take place but this is due the high demand on the specialist skills offered by Dorothea Restorations.

The existing street lighting in the area is sufficient to light the bridge for all highway users so temporary lighting will not be needed, the bridge lamps merely serve to enhance the ambience in darker hours.

The electrical circuit rewiring required will be a relatively small scale operation and will only require a minimum of pedestrian/ traffic management but this is not expected to cause delays, the work will be carried out at off peak times to reduce any possible conflicts. For workers safety it may be necessary to close the footpath for a few hours but again during off peak hours. Appropriate signage will be put in place to inform pedestrians.

For more information regarding the project please contact:

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Map of Tickford Bridge

