

# Bubwith Bridge

## Newsletter

📅 23 June 2023

✉ Contact us at 01482 393939



### Shortened repairs to begin next month

**MAJOR** repairs will start on the historic Bubwith bridge next month and are now scheduled to take 15 weeks to complete.

The shortened project has been achieved following discussions with contractors, local residents and businesses.

The £1m scheme – which needs to be carried out during a closure of the bridge – is due to begin on Monday 10 July and end in October.

However, this depends on no other urgent structural issues being encountered during the work.

The 85m-long (almost 280ft) bridge was badly damaged in a road accident in September 2022, and this uncovered underlying weakness in the structure.

East Riding of Yorkshire Council needs to carry out emergency repairs and strengthening work to ensure the bridge is safe and struc-

turally sound for the future.

Because of its scale and complexity, the original estimate for the scheme was 20 weeks. However requests to reduce the time have been taken on board and, thanks to further work between the council and its contractors, a new 15-week scheme has been agreed.

The council will continue to work with local residents, businesses and local parish and town councils, as well as schools and care providers.

The stone bridge was built in 1798 and is a Grade II listed structure. It carries the A163 road over the River Derwent, between Holme on Spalding Moor and North Duffield.

Adam Holmes, the council's director of infrastructure and facilities, said: "The residents and business people in the Bubwith area

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Thanks to successful discussions with our contractors, we have been able to produce the new 15-week project.

called for the bridge repairs to be shortened - and we are pleased we've achieved this.

"This is thanks to successful discussions with our contractors. They have done a huge amount of work to reduce the timeframe, and we are pleased that together we've been able to produce the new 15-week project.

"This will involve the repair team working weekends and extended hours to speed up the work.

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EAST RIDING  
OF YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

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“The repairs and strengthening are essential in order to make the structure safe and sound for the future, and we can’t do them while the bridge is open. The closure is unavoidable.

“We completely understand this will still cause major disruption

and inconvenience, mainly for local residents and businesses, but we have listened to them, taken on board their concerns, and we hope this 15-week scheme will be more acceptable.

“We need to stress, however, that if the repair team uncover any

further structural issues with the bridge during the work, this may extend the length of the scheme.”

Due to the age and listed status of the bridge, the repairs being carried out must be sympathetic to the existing structure and its surroundings, and require specialist contractors and materials. The work will also include the installation of a vehicle restraint barrier to protect the bridge and the resurfacing of the road across it.

During the scheme the bridge will be closed to all users.

The council is working on ways

to support residents with transport options during the closure.

A free shuttle bus, which the council has provided for residents since December, will continue until the work begins. Following the closure, the shuttle bus will connect with a nearby service bus to provide onward travel.

An official signed diversion route will be in place, which caters for all vehicles. However, local drivers will be able to find shorter, alternative routes that are suitable for their vehicles and considerate to local residents.

## Follow-up to public meeting

**THANK** you to the many residents of Bubwith and beyond who attended the public meeting held last Friday to discuss the proposals to repair the bridge.

This meeting was intended to provide the opportunity for questions to be asked and issues to be raised about the proposals and this was achieved through a very lively and participative discussion.

A number of relevant staff from the council attended the event in order to listen to views and to respond accordingly to best support affected residents and businesses throughout this period.

This included those responsible for:

- the bridge repair works
- getting children to school
- transport/buses
- providing home care packages for vulnerable adults
- supporting businesses
- communicating with residents

There were many points raised during the meeting, many questions asked and many issues

aired. Not all of these questions could be answered during the session itself.

Some were matters affecting individuals or specific households and were discussed after the session with the relevant council staff.

Others required further research or work to be done before providing a response.

The top priority for the team this week has been reviewing options to reduce the duration of the proposed works by increasing working hours and/or days, and we will share an update on this as soon as possible.

The team have also been reviewing opportunities to mitigate against the worst impacts of the closure in a number of other ways, responding to the feedback and suggestions made at the meeting.

The relevant council staff promised to review options and provide responses to the key issues raised at the meeting. Updates will follow soon and throughout the process.

The team have also been making plans to keep residents,

businesses, and others affected by the closure informed, as well as to work with local businesses who will be affected.

We will be sending updates by email and offering printed versions for anyone not able to access information via email.

We have also set up a dedicated ‘Bubwith bridge’ Facebook group to provide updates and enable residents and businesses to contact us with queries and we will also provide updates through posters on local display and a dedicated Bubwith bridge website.

We will also work closely with Bubwith, Foggathorpe, Ellerton and Aughton, Wressle, Holme on Spalding Moor and Market Weighton Parish Councils, as well as with relevant colleagues at North Yorkshire Council to share information locally.

We will also share updates via the local media and across a number of well-used local Facebook community and group pages covering Bubwith, Holme on Spalding Moor, Market Weighton, and beyond.



## Advice surgery appointments available to businesses based in or trading from Bubwith and surrounding area

**THE** council will provide support to local businesses through its 'Invest East Yorkshire' business advice team, to those affected by the forthcoming closure of Bubwith bridge for essential repair work.

Based across the East Riding, this team of trained and knowledgeable business advisors work with businesses of all shapes and sizes and with start-ups and established businesses to offer tailored support in line with business needs.

In response to feedback from both local business owners and residents, our team of business advisors will be available for pre-booked business advice surgery appointments at the Bubwith Centre on Friday 30

June from 2pm-7pm.

During this time, the team can offer initial advice surgery appointments to up to 30 businesses.

These face-to-face sessions will allow our business advisors to identify key issues for individual local businesses through one-to-one discussions, review potential support mechanisms and provide access to tailored packages of business support in response.

Should this date and time not be suited to all of those who would like to take up this offer, please let us know and we'll look at alternative options to ensure that you don't miss out.

For further information to

book an appointment, please call 01482 3919622 or 01482 391640.

Council staff representing different areas of service continue to work together and ensure, wherever possible, the worst impacts of the bridge closure can be avoided, and keep villagers and businesses informed.

### Business advice surgery appointments

Our team of business advisors will be available for pre-booked business advice surgery appointments at the Bubwith Centre on Friday 30 June from 2pm-7pm.

