Design and Access Statement

TO	Wiltshire County Council Bath and North East Somerset Council	**FROM**	WSP – Liam Hennessey
DATE	**05 September 2023**	**CONFIDENTIALITY**	**Confidential**
SUBJECT	**Limpley Stoke Viaduct – Masonry Repairs**		

Overview

WSP were appointed by National Highways to carry out the design of a masonry repair scheme for Limpley Stoke Viaduct. The structure passes over Midford Brook which defines the boundary between Wiltshire County Council and Bath and North East Somerset Council. The scheme is limited in its extent given that the only the worse defects will be repaired. Previously available information is summarised as follows:

Listing entry – Historic England - https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1215192

Previous Planning Application – Bath and North East Somerset Council: https://www.bathnes.gov.uk/webforms/planning/details.html?refval=13%2F00152%2FLBA

No data was held by Wiltshire County Council, however, their GIS had the following entry.

Table 1 - GIS reference from Wiltshire Planning Explorer.

Listed Buildings: LIMPLEY STOKE VIADUCT

REFVAL	314532
GRADE	II
EHID	1,215,192
NAME	LIMPLEY STOKE VIADUCT
ADDRESS	LIMPLEY STOKE VIADUCT, WARMINSTER ROAD
LINKS	More info
SRC	X

Introduction

This Design and Access Statement outlines the proposed works for the like-for-like masonry repairs to Limpley Stoke Viaduct on the A36. The repairs aim to maintain the structural integrity of the viaduct, which is a Grade II listed structure and an important local landmark. The works will be carried out in accordance with the principles of conservation and will be sympathetic to the original design and materials used in the construction of the viaduct. A typical area to be repaired is shown as follows:



Figure 1 - Typical masonry defect (circled).

Design

The proposed works will involve the repair of damaged masonry using traditional materials and techniques. The repairs should be carried out by skilled stonemasons who will carefully match the colour, texture, and shape of the existing stonework. The works will be undertaken in a manner that minimises disruption to the surrounding area and will be carried out in accordance with relevant health and safety regulations.

Masonry will be reused where possible. Where replacement masonry is required, bottom bed local limestone (bath stone) will be used for repairs to the structure on a like-for like basis.

The proposed mortar mix is Oolitic Cotswold Dust (OCD) and Bowlands Builders (pit) sand (BBPS) mixed at a Ratio of 1 (OCD): 2 (BBPS): 1 (lime).



Figure 2 - Mortar sample colour.

Access

Limpley Stoke Viaduct carried the A36 Trunk Road between Bath and Salisbury over Midford Brook and valley. The land around most of the viaduct piers is used by the Senior school as playing fields and at the south west corner of the bridge the field is used as a paddock. This use will not be affected by the proposed works.

Access to the site will be via the existing access roads and footpaths. The works will be carried out during normal working hours and will be completed as quickly as possible to minimise disruption to local residents, the local school and road users. Traffic management measures will be put in place to ensure the safety of road users, pedestrians, and workers during the works.

Planning Guidance

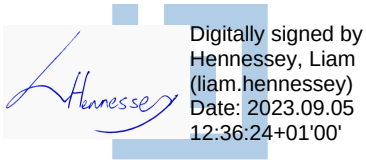
The proposed works to Limpley Stoke Viaduct fall under the jurisdiction of both Bath and North East Somerset Council and Wiltshire County Council as local planning authorities.

Bath and North East Somerset Council's Local Plan states that proposals for works to listed buildings should preserve or enhance their character, appearance, and setting. The proposed like-for-like masonry repairs to Limpley Stoke Viaduct are in line with this guidance as they aim to maintain the structural integrity of the viaduct while being sympathetic to its original design and materials.

Wiltshire County Council's Planning Policy Statement on Listed Buildings states that proposals for works to listed buildings should seek to preserve their special architectural or historic interest. The proposed like-for-like masonry repairs to Limpley Stoke Viaduct are in line with this guidance as they aim to maintain the original character and appearance of the viaduct.

Conclusion

The proposed like-for-like masonry repairs to Limpley Stoke Viaduct on the A36 will ensure that this important local landmark is preserved for future generations. The works will be carried out in accordance with the principles of conservation and will be sympathetic to the original design and materials used in the construction of the viaduct. Access to the site will be via existing access roads and footpaths, and traffic management measures will be put in place to ensure the safety of road users, pedestrians, and workers during the works. The proposed works are in line with planning guidance from both Bath and North East Somerset Council and Wiltshire County Council.



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