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| <b>Committee</b>   | <b>COUNCIL MEETING</b>  |
| <b>Date</b>        | <b>15 February 2021</b> |
| <b>Agenda Item</b> | <b>11</b>               |

### **Update on the Riverside Footbridge (between Riverside Court and Chapel St car park)**

The footbridge working group met on Wed 10 Feb; all members were present.

The company that is carrying out the concrete entombing works has now finished both sides of the bridge, encasing all the repaired metalwork. An action to get the metalwork and concrete entombing repair approved by the structural surveyor will now be progressed.

There is a small repair to a small expansion crack on the bridge that will require the application of external sealant; this will be undertaken as soon as possible.

The painting of the bridge parapet also needs to be undertaken and a quote has been received for this work; however further quotes need to be sought so that best value for money is being considered. Additional quotes will be sought by Town Clerk and be reviewed by council members for approval to subcontract these works. A query regarding the correct recovery of VAT on invoices is also being clarified.

A recent update from Town Clerk said that she has a copy of the transfer document and that our solicitors are negotiating with land registry; in an update given by Town Clerk at the end of November 2020 the timescale for completion of the legal part was given as 6-8 weeks. Once the bridge ownership is transferred to HTC the council will need to ensure it has public liability and insurance against damage; Town Clerk has been asked to help in this regard. Once ownership is complete the Riverside Bridge will also need listing as an HTC asset.

A communication to ECC Highways is being drafted in readiness for when the removal of the metal restrictive fencing is appropriate.

N.B. The bridge has other repair work that needs to be carried out but although this is necessary for the long-term upkeep will have to wait until the EA gives permission. This work involves concrete entombing of exposed piling as well as ensuring the water flow erosion of the bridge is brought under control.

Once all the work to the bridge has been completed the working group will look into the best way of recognising the local companies that have helped by giving their services wholly, or partly, free of charges to this project.

Another working group meeting will be scheduled for March.

**Recommendation:** that Council notes the above report and agrees for the work to continue

Cllr Andrew Munday  
Chairman of Riverside Bridge Working Group