

**Hampshire County Council  
Director of Economy, Transport & Environment**

**Applicant: Hampshire County Council**

**Replacement of existing bridge deck and parapets to be demolished and replaced at Waterloo or Fleet Bridge, High Street, Stockbridge, Hampshire SO20 6EY (No. 12/00197/CAWN )**

**(Received: 26 January 2012)**

## **General**

The Waterloo or Fleet bridge (HCC ref B229) carries the High Street (A30) over the river Test through Stockbridge. The bridge is adjacent to residential and business premises. The existing structure consists of a single span corrugated steel troughing deck supported on mass concrete abutments, with brick walls and parapets. Records of the bridge history show that the existing structure was built in 1948 and replaced the former brick arch structure.

The existing bridge is in a poor condition and beyond economical repair as there are environmental and amenity constraints to consider. The proposal is to remove the concrete deck and brick wall, and replace with a similar structure that can bear the load and have a similar visual appearance. As the bridge is located within the Stockbridge Conservation Area, but not a listed building, Conservation Area consent is required.

The works are planned to start on site in the summer of 2012 for a period of approximately 10 weeks. The work will be carried out in two halves to allow cars to travel through the site but due to the narrowness of the available carriageway HGV's will be diverted. Access to the adjacent properties will be maintained at all times and the contractor will be required to provide access for pedestrians through the site via a temporary footbridge.

## **Development Plan**

Test Valley Borough Local Plan 2006 (saved policies): Policy ENV 14: Demolition in conservation areas and ENV 15: Development in conservation areas.

## **Consultations**

Councillor Gibson has no objection.  
Test Valley Borough Council has no objection.  
Environment Agency Southern has no objection.  
Natural England has no objection.  
Highway Authority has no objection.  
Stockbridge Parish Council has no objection.

## Commentary

There have been no adverse comments received to this proposal and the works are needed to secure highways safety. It is not considered the proposed works would detract from the appearance and character of the Conservation Area. In light of the above, it is deemed that the proposal will not result in an adverse impact on the heritage setting, and as such Conservation Area consent is recommended to be granted.

## Recommendation

That the Secretary of State be recommended grant Conservation Area consent subject to the following conditions.

## Reason for Approval

It is considered that the proposal would be in accordance with the development plan (summary attached) Test Valley Borough Local Plan 2006 (saved policies) as it would not materially harm the character or appearance of the conservation area in accordance with Policy ENV 14 (Demolition in conservation areas) and ENV 15 (Development in conservation areas).

## Conditions

### Commencement

1. The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of three years from the date on which this Conservation Area Consent was granted.

Reason: To comply with Section 18 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.

### Materials

2. The replacement external materials to be used shall match as closely as possible in type, colour and texture to those on the existing structure.

Reason: To secure a satisfactory development.

**Case Officer** .....  
**Peter Chadwick**

**Date**...15/05/2012.....

**Authorised on behalf of the Director of the Economy, Transport & Environment**

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**Richard Read**

**Date**.....15/05/2012.....

**Annexe to Reason for Conditions**  
**(as required by Article 13 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Regulations 1990– as amended)**

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**Test Valley Borough Local Plan 2006 (saved policies)**

**ENV 14: DEMOLITION IN CONSERVATION AREAS**

The demolition of a building or feature within a conservation area will only be permitted if:  
it can be shown to be wholly beyond repair or incapable of continued beneficial use; or  
it is inappropriate to the character and appearance of the area; and  
in either case there are approved and detailed plans for its replacement.

**ENV 15: DEVELOPMENT IN CONSERVATION AREAS**

Development within Conservation Areas will be permitted if:  
it would preserve or enhance the character or appearance of the area; and  
the form, bulk, scale, height, massing and function of the development are appropriate to the development site itself and are sympathetic to adjoining buildings, spaces and views; and  
the development respects the form and layout of historic street, block and building patterns; and  
the nature and quality of the design, architectural detailing and materials used for the development are appropriate and sympathetic to the site and its setting; and  
the development does not involve the loss of important features which contribute to the character of the area, including buildings and structures which make a positive contribution to the townscape and trees, gardens, hedges, spacing between buildings and views which contribute to the character of the area.