

LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

## EXECUTIVE COUNCILLOR BRIEFING NOTE

STATUS: CONFIDENTIAL – may be future background paper

PORTFOLIO: Councillor W S Webb, Highways & Transport

AUTHOR: David Walton, Contract & Client Services Manager

DATE: 6 December 2011

**SUBJECT: St. Botolph's Footbridge, Boston – Preferred Option Following Public Consultation**

### **1. Background**

- 1.1 The existing St. Botolph's Footbridge has a number of structural defects and in particular a number of the precast concrete deck planks have failed.
- 1.2 The existing bridge does not comply with current standards and in particular the Disability and Equality Act (DEA) in respect to gradients and the bridge has insufficient width for the usage.
- 1.3 The existing bridge is situated in a Conservation Area and is not attractive and does not enhance the area.
- 1.3 ERDF Priority Axis 2 funding has been secured via a Waterways Partnership bid entitled 'Routes not Barriers' which will fund 54% of the bridge replacement costs.
- 1.4 It has been determined that a Planning Consent should be sought and that a Public Consultation process should be undertaken.

### **2. Public Consultation**

- 2.1 On 14/15<sup>th</sup> September 2011 a public consultation event was held over two days in Boston, which ran in conjunction with the issuing of leaflets and questionnaires at the event and around the town. In addition an advertorial was placed in both the Boston Target and Boston Standard on the first day of the consultation.
- 2.2 Prior to the consultation event in early September all District and Local County Councillors were invited to a preview of the consultation designs in Boston.

- 2.3 Three different designs were previewed at the Public Consultation; Bowstring, Traditional and Low Bowstring.
- 2.4 The findings from the Public Consultation are contained within a report that will be issued with a press release and published on the website once the preferred solution has received Executive Councillor endorsement.

### 3 Outcome

- 3.1 The outcome of the Public Consultation is that the preferred solution is the Bowstring.
- 3.2 A meeting was held with Boston Borough Council and English Heritage and they have confirmed their preferred option is the Bowstring.

### 4.0 Proposal

- 4.1 It is proposed that the Bowstring design is taken forward as the preferred design and submitted for a planning consent through the formal planning application process to Boston Borough Council.
- 4.2 If the above is agreed it is proposed that the Public Consultation report is made public and loaded onto the website along with a press release stating that the preferred option is the bowstring and that a planning application will be made on that basis.

Executive Councillor comments:

*Satisfactory consultation.*

I agree / ~~disagree~~ with the proposals

Signed



Date:

*9/12/11*

Councillor W S Webb, Executive Councillor for Highways and Transport