

Gas Pipe Bridge Refurbishment Project Update



Update Report

- Project update and status
- Diversion route update
- Design updates and County Council approvals
- Environment agency update
- Programme update

Project update and status

The project has now achieved tender completion and has been awarded, the contract has now been signed and sealed in line with the constitutional process.

We are pleased to announce the Council has been able to award the contract for the works to the bridge to the successful contractor B&M McHugh Ltd

B&M McHugh are a specialist Civil Engineering Contractor. Bernard McHugh founded the company back in 1967 having previously spent many years gaining hands on experience in tunnelling, bridges and underground work construction.

B&M McHugh said: "We believe our customers should have high quality projects, communities should be improved by our work and involvement, and the environment and nature should benefit from our behaviour. In this way, we seek to realise ambitions for all. We are an independent, multidisciplinary construction company. B&M McHugh very much look forward to working with Oxford City Council on the prestigious Oxford Gasworks Pipe Bridge Refurbishment Project."

B&M McHugh is aware of the challenges that the bridge closure has brought to the local area and various groups and will work closely with the City Council to complete the works and reopen the bridge as soon as it is safe to do so.

The next step for the project is the site setup for B&M McHugh and currently they have been surveying the area and designing their compound before starting works later this month. They will begin constructing their compound, ordering materials and services which are required whilst working closely with bridge engineers to a detailed programme of works.

Diversion route update

Oxford City Council is continuing to monitor and maintain the diversion route.

Leaves and vegetation clearance continues to be carried out regularly and signage replaced where appropriate.

Design updates and County Council approvals

Stantec, the City Council's structural engineering consultants and project managers for the project have submitted further detailed designs to Oxfordshire County Council (in their capacity as the Technical Approval Authority). These designs have been provided by Stantec and agreed with the contractor and now await approval from the County Council.

Environment agency update

There are no current updates from the Environment Agency or required actions at this time.

Programme update

B&M McHugh have confirmed their programme of works with an on-site completion expected at the end of October and a contract completion of June 2024. Following detailed round table discussions with all working parties and supply chains, frustratingly there has been some slippage in the programme due in part to supply chains and material supply, sadly this could not be worked around due to shortages in the construction industry. To minimise further delays to the programme, the council has agreed a plan to ensure any issues are dealt with in a timely manner.

Whilst the completion date is later than was originally envisioned all partners involved in the project are acutely aware of the inconvenience to residents of the bridge being out of action and are working hard to make sure it can be returned to use as soon as possible.

Once on site B&M McHugh will be hosting a series of drop in sessions to inform members of the public on the programme of works and answer any questions that they may have.