

**Footway/Cycleway Bridge, Pilton Park, Barnstaple
Proposed Bridgeworks Scheme**

Report of the Local Service Officer (Barnstaple)

Please note that the following recommendation is subject to consideration and determination by the Committee before taking effect.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the scheme shown on plan BM (4861)/102 (to be displayed at Committee) is approved at an estimated cost of £182,500.

1. Summary

The report seeks approval for a scheme to construct a new footpath and cycleway bridge across the River Yeo connecting the new Housing Development at the former RGB Site to Pilton Park.

2. Background

On 27 March 2006 North Devon District Council approved a planning application for Housing Development at the former RGB site. A planning condition required the developer to make a contribution to the County Council for the purpose of providing a footway/cycleway bridge into Pilton Park.

£178,000 has been received by the County Council and a scheme has been prepared.

3. Proposals

The scheme shown on plan BM (4861)/102 provides details of the scheme. The bridge comprises a cambered steel I beam deck supported on reinforced concrete abutments. The steel beams in the deck will be galvanised and the two edge beams will be clad in timber on their outside face to conceal the steelwork. The parapet railings will be of timber construction to match the beam cladding and they will be of a vertical infill form. Further details of the bridge including a photo of a similar structure are shown in Appendix I.

In order to provide the maximum recommended gradient of 1 in 20 down into Pilton Park a ramp of approximately 55 metres is required. The construction of this ramp will require the removal of one mature tree. Planning consent for the works will be necessary.

This link is an essential element in the wider transport strategy for Barnstaple. It will help achieve improved pedestrian and cycle links in the locality as illustrated in the transport strategy plan no EATS(N)305-5-0.

The estimated cost of the scheme is £182,500. A developer contribution of £178,000 has been secured. It is proposed that the balance of the scheme cost is funded from the Barnstaple and Bideford Area Programme.

4. Reasons for Reaching Recommendation

The County Council are working closely in partnership with North Devon District Council to deliver sustainable transport improvements associated with new developments.

The scheme design has been prepared following consideration of the wider transport strategy, environmental considerations and the funding available. It is believed that the proposed scheme best meets the objectives within the above constraints.

5. Sustainability Considerations

The proposed scheme will encourage walking and cycling trips in the local area for both leisure and utility purposes.

Joe Deasy

County Electoral Division: Barnstaple North North Devon District Council Ward: Pilton

Local Government Act 1972

List of Background Papers

Contact for enquiries: Joe Deasy

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Background Paper	Date	File Ref
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None

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sc/pilton park
2 hq 140606

Pilton Park Footbridge

General Description

Pilton park footbridge is a new foot/cycle bridge crossing the River Yeo from the new RGB development to Pilton Park.

The bridge comprises a cambered steel I beam deck supported on reinforced concrete bank seat abutments. The position of the bank seats have been determined after discussion with the Environment Agency to minimise obstruction to the flood channel. The steel beams in the deck will be galvanised and the two edge beams will be clad in timber on their outside face to conceal the steelwork.

The parapet railings will be of timber construction to match the beam cladding and they will be of a vertical infill form.

The bridge soffit level has been agreed after discussion with the Environment Agency again to minimise obstruction within the flood channel. In order to provide the maximum recommended gradient of 1 in 20 down into Pilton Park a ramp of approximately 55 metres is required.

The visual impact and space requirements of this ramp will be minimised by constructing them from reinforced earth so that the side slopes can be steeper than normal earthwork embankments.

The reinforced earth will be faced with hessian bags filled with grass seeded topsoil to promote the rapid establishment of grass over the side slopes. The alignment of the ramp has been chosen to follow the existing flood bank to minimise land take and tree loss.

The ramp will be fenced both sides with timber post and four rail fencing to prevent users from falling down the slopes and the surfacing will match that of the existing park footpath.

Alternative access to the bridge from Pilton Park will be provided by stairs extending from the end of the deck down to the existing footpath. The timber railing system over the bridge will extend down the footsteps but the height shall be reduced from 1.4 metres to 1.15 metres.

The ground levels on the RGB development side are higher than the park and therefore only a gentle slope up to the bridge is required this side with very little earthworks.



Indicative illustration of bridge style