

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE – 13 FEBRUARY 2001

DAMAGE TO BRIDGE NO. C104/20, WINDYHILLHILL ROAD RAILWAY BRIDGE, NEWMILNS

Report By Director of Development Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1** To advise the Council of the current status on the measures being taken to progress the repair of the damage to Windyhill Road Railway Bridge and the re-opening of Windyhill Road

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1** This bridge spans the dismantled Hurlford/Darvel/Strathaven railway line. It is a two span bridge and is used by Vesuvius UK as an underpass below Windyhill Road to access their stockyard and storage facilities, thereby reducing traffic flow on Brown's Road.

The bridge is owned by East Ayrshire Council as is the area of land directly below the bridge.

- 2.2** Following damage to one span by a vehicle passing below this bridge on 25 August 1999, the road was closed to all traffic except pedestrians. Access below the bridge was also closed.

- 2.3** The Council immediately proceeded with Statutory Emergency Road Closure Notices and then applied a Temporary Road Closure Order extending to 18 March 2001 to allow for repairs to be completed.

3. OPTIONS FOR REPAIR

- 3.1** In instances of damage to structures as a result of Road Traffic Accidents, the damage is repaired and the cost is rechargeable to the relevant insurance company. Following immediate enquiries to ascertain the responsible party and obtain details of their insurers, a response was eventually received on 19th November 1999 from AXA Insurance. In this case as the damage was more extensive than normal advice was sought from the Risk and Insurance Manager, Finance Department who contacted AXA Insurance. They responded on the 29th February 2000 through the loss adjuster, Cunningham Lindsey (formerly Cunningham, Ellis and Buckle)

- 3.2** Consulting Engineers Halcrow Crouch were appointed by East Ayrshire Council on the 17th February 2000 to prepare a Designs Options Report which would outline several repair proposals with an estimate of their costs.

- 3.3** As indicated in the previous report to Committee of 9 May 2000 the preferred repair option was to infill the damaged span, however Vesuvius UK wrote to the Council asking them to reconsider the closing of this span. Following a meeting between the Director of Development Services and Cunningham Lindsey on 14th November it was agreed that Halcrow Crouch would prepare estimates for both repairing the damaged deck and for replacing it entirely, thus keeping the span open for Vesuvius's use.
- 3.4** As a result of these estimates, Cunningham Lindsey have now authorised the Council to instruct Halcrow Crouch to proceed with a full design and the preparation of tender documents for the complete replacement of the damaged deck.
- 3.5** The present position is that Halcrow Crouch will have a design and Tender document prepared for the repair work by the end of February 2001 and this will then be issued to Contractors.
- 3.6** On return of the tender documents authorisation will be sought from Cunningham Lindsey to proceed with the works.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1** A record of costs incurred to date by the Council has been recorded and these will be passed on to the Insurers.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1** The maintenance of this bridge and the roadway carried is the responsibility of the Council.

6. RECOMMENDATION

- 6.1** It is recommended that the Committee authorise the Director to instruct the works specified at paragraph 3.4 above.

Stephen Chorley
Director of Development Services

DM/NP
24th January 2001

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 1 Windyhill Road, Newmilns – Closure at Vesuvius.
Development Services Committee – 9 May 2000.**

For further information please contact Pete Longman on 01563 576310

AGENDA

Implementation Officer: Pete Longman