

AGENDA ITEM NO 8

REPORT NO 292/18

ANGUS COUNCIL

COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE - 25 SEPTEMBER 2018

THE ANGUS COUNCIL (WEIGHT LIMITS ON BRIDGES) (VARIATION) ORDER 201X - NEWTON FARM BRIDGE BRECHIN

REPORT BY THE HEAD OF INFRASTRUCTURE

ABSTRACT

This report relates to the making of a Traffic Order in respect of a weight limit on Newton Farm Bridge Brechin.

1. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee note the objections received during the publication period and approve the making of the Order.

2. ALIGNMENT TO THE ANGUS LOCAL OUTCOMES IMPROVEMENT PLAN/CORPORATE PLAN

This report contributes to the following local outcome contained within the Angus Local Outcomes Improvement Plan and Locality Plans:

PLACE

- Safe, secure, vibrant and sustainable communities.

3. BACKGROUND.

Reference is made to Article 8 of the minute of meeting of the Communities Committee held on 16 January 2018 at which it was agreed to the promotion and making of a Traffic Regulation Order restricting to 12.5 Tonnes the maximum weight of vehicles permitted to use Mill of Brathinch Road over Newton Farm Bridge near Brechin.

4. CONSULTATION AND PUBLICATION.

- 4.1 The Notice of Proposals was published in the Brechin Advertiser on 7 June 2018. In addition Public Notices were erected on the affected roads. In response to the publication of the proposals, one letter of objection to the proposals was received. The basis of the objection is that the objector farms the land at Newton of Stracathro Farm near where the bridge is located and through which the affected road runs. The proposed weight limit will impact on the objectors business due to increased costs arising from the additional travelling distance of their vehicles between their fields.
- 4.2 The Head of Infrastructure appreciates the objectors concerns however a bridge assessment by the owners has indicated that the structure is in poor condition and recommends that a weight restriction is introduced. Having been made aware of the condition of the bridge it is appropriate for the Council to promote an Order to impose such a restriction in the interest of traffic safety.
- 4.3 The bridge owner has obtained planning consent to infill the bridge arch to make the structure safe and on completion of these works the weight limit would be revoked. However the time scale for carrying out these works is unclear and in the meantime the weight limit is considered necessary.

4.4 Copies of the letter of objection (**Appendix 1**) and the response by the Head of Infrastructure (**Appendix 2**) are attached to this report. A location plan (**Appendix 3**) is also attached to this report.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS.

The estimated cost of implementing the proposals is £1000 which will be met from the 2018/2019 Roads Revenue Budget. Additional maintenance costs will amount to £100 per annum and this will require to be provided for in future years Roads Maintenance Revenue Budgets.

6. CONSULTATION.

The Chief Executive, Strategic Director - Place, the Head of Finance and Legal and the Local Police commander of Tayside Division were consulted in the preparation of this report.

NOTE:

The following background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information), were relied on to any material extent in preparing this Report:-

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List of Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Letter of Objection
Appendix 2 – Response to Letter of Objection
Appendix 3 – Location Plan