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METHOD STATEMENT
FOR
Investigation of Expansion Joint at Bridge 4

Wendover Canal Bringing it to Life - Wendover Canal Trust

Registered Charity No. 801190

Document Location

The editable version of this document is held by the Wendover Canal Trust Site Manager. It is available to all members of the Wendover Canal Trust and the public via the Wendover Canal Trust's website:

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Printed copies may be out-of-date. The latest version is held on the Wendover Arm Trust's website.

Revision History

Issue	Date	Author	Summary of changes
2	31/10/2023	M. Bradley	Method statement revised following comments from A Arnold at CRT, ref email dated 08/09/23

Description of work to be carried out:

This method statement covers the work of investigating the possibility of an expansion joint at Bridge 4 being a cause of water leaking from the canal. It is believed that an expansion joint across the bed of the canal has been constructed and that no sealant was installed in the joint. The joints in the concrete walls will be inspected and repaired if necessary.

Hazards associated with task /work:

- Uneven ground.
- Falling materials.
- Manual handling.
- Working near water, Leptospirosis.
- Working at height.

Risk assessments and other method statements / documents to be referred to:

Risk assessments WCTRA s17 and s19 (available on Wendover Canal Bringing it to Life - Wendover Canal Trust)

Fosroc information sheets.

COSHH assessments 18, 19, 20a and 20b.

WCT/PROC 11, Sealing stop planks at Bridge 4.

Methods to be undertaken:

During the task regular photographs will be taken for inclusion in the health and safety file.

The section of canal between Whitehouses and Bridge 4 will be drained in order to investigate the expansion joint and to carry out a repair.

CRT will be consulted to obtain approval to drain the section of canal at Whitehouses into Wilstone reservoir. No work is to start until CRT approval has been confirmed.

The sluice at Whitehouses will be raised to drain the water from the section of the canal.

The pipe bung to the bund wall on Bridge 4 side will be removed by hand to allow water to drain. The draining will be monitored until the sluice can be partially closed and not be a hazard to anybody entering the canal channel.

When the water has drained sufficiently at Bridge 4 to allow access into the canal channel in wellington boots, a ladder will be secured to allow access. The sandbags holding the tail of the tarpaulin will be removed from the tarpaulin and placed across the bed of the canal to form a temporary dam. NOTE: the tarpaulin on the stop planks must be disturbed only enough to gain access to the expansion joint, which is located between the stop planks and the stop plank channel in the bridge hole walls.

Final drying of the bed of the canal will be carried out using buckets to bail or one of the pumps if there is a large volume of water.

The tarpaulin will be folded back to expose the expansion joint. There is likely to be a build up of silt and debris on the joint which will need to be cleared using shovels and brushes. Clean water in buckets may be needed to fully clean the joint.

The bed joint will be inspected, and sealant installed if necessary. The expansion joints in the walls of the bridge hole will be inspected.

Hold Point: CRT will be notified and given the opportunity to inspect.

If sealant is required, Fosroc Nitoseal MS600 will be used. The installation will follow the manufacturers instruction (The product sheet is included in the documents referred to in this method statement). The expansion foam will need to be cut back to a depth to allow Fosroc Expandafoam cord to be placed in the joint. The joint will need to be clean and dry before brushing it with primer, Fosroc MS2. The sealant will be gunned into the joint.

The sealant will be allowed to cure. The curing period will be based on the recommendation of the sealant supplier and depends on the width of the joint.

If the wall joint sealant is deemed to have failed it will be replaced. Old sealant will be cut out using hand tools and the face of the concrete cleaned of sealant residue. The expansion foam will be cut back to allow Fosroc Expandafoam cord to be placed in the joint.

Hold Point: CRT will be notified and given the opportunity to inspect.

Replacement sealant will be Fosroc Nitoseal MS600. The installation will follow the manufacturers instruction (The product sheet is included in the documents referred to in this method statement). The joint will need to be clean and dry before brushing it with primer, Fosroc MS2. The sealant will be gunned into the joint.

The sealant will be allowed to cure. The curing period will be based on the recommendation of the sealant supplier and depends on the width of the joint.

A polythene sheet will be fitted to the wet side of the stop planks and the tarpaulin will be folded back into place and sealed against the bed using sandbags trodden into place.

The bung will be placed back on the pipe through the bund wall and the sluice at White houses will be closed. The canal channel will be allowed to fill under normal flow conditions.

If water levels are low CRT will be approached to assist filling the canal.

PPE:	**Hard hats and high visibility jackets to be worn at all times.** **Gloves and other appropriate clothing including suitable safety wellingtons should be worn.**
PLANT AND EQUIPMENT:	**Ladder, hand tools for preparing joint (such as chisels, wire brushes, stiff brushes), buckets/pump.**
WELFARE FACILITIES:	**Portaloo on site.**
FIRST AID:	**First aid cover will be supplied by the WCT first aiders.** **First aid kit will be carried by first aiders.**
EMERGENCY CONTACTS: **FIRE:** **AMBULANCE SERVICE:** **STOKE MADEVILLE HOSPITAL:** **HEMEL HEMPSTEAD HOSPITAL:** **LOCAL POLICE:** **TRING:** **HEMEL HEMPSTEAD:** **AYLESBURY:**	**IN ANY EMERGENCY DIAL 999** **999** **01908 262422** **01296 315000** **01442 213141** **01442 827272** **01442 271000** **01296 396000** **Note:** **If asked for location by emergency services, it is important that the exact location of the nearest ROAD ACCESS or BRIDGE is provided. Refer to EMERGENCY CALL OUT INFORMATION sheet.**