

# Zouch Bridge Replacement News

Spring 2025



Newsletter number 2



Aerial photograph 20.03.25

## Welcome to our latest Zouch bridge update

Over the winter we have been working in partnership to ensure the design is approved and the steel fabrication progresses ready for delivery to the UK. The Environment Agency approve our working methods to minimise impact on the wildlife and avoid changing the flood risk situation.

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## Eric Wright return to Zouch

Eric Wright Civil Engineering returned to the site at Zouch on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2025 to resume their work.

Since then we have set up our compound, and, with our new site manager, Georgios Kostapanos, the team will be continuing the activities required to replace the bridge over the river Soar.

We will be continuing to work within the cofferdams, constructing the piled foundations, abutments and the piers on which the new bridge will be constructed.

## Pier construction

Working within rivers can be challenging. To protect both our team and the environment, we construct cofferdams – these provide a dry working area for our workforce, and prevent contamination within the adjacent river, or materials being swept away under more challenging conditions.

These temporary cofferdams are a visible part of our work. We constructed all 4 cofferdams last year, so to allow us to continue constructing the foundations for the new bridge.

## Why is the bridge being replaced?

Zouch bridge was built in 1930. It has been slowly deteriorating, and replacement of the bridge was approved by the County Council's Cabinet. Later, funding was secured to allow the project to progress.

In May 2024 a contract was signed with Eric Wright Civil Engineering to build the replacement bridge. We are looking forward to delivering this project, which is a vital part of the A6006, linking Leicestershire and Nottinghamshire by crossing the River Soar

- For more information on Eric Wright Eric Wright Civil Engineering please visit [ericwright.co.uk](http://ericwright.co.uk)



## FAQs, Social Value & Civil Engineering

### Frequently asked questions

- **When will the bridge be finished?**

Our date for completing the bridge is Autumn 2026.

- **Why can't you work all year round?**

In river working is authorised by the Environment Agency. The cofferdams enable us to keep working when in river work is not permitted.

- **Will the road be closed?**

For limited, short periods – see road closure section

- **What is the bridge made of?**

The bridge is a composite structure of Concrete and Steel

### What is Social Value?

Social Value is about providing value to the areas we work in. Working in partnership with Leicestershire County Council, we have created a bespoke social value plan, aimed at supporting local economic, environmental and community needs. This includes the creation of jobs, supporting work experience, community projects and reducing the environmental impact of our works.

### Who are Eric Wright?

The Eric Wright Group is unique. The Eric Wright Charitable Trust owns 100% of the Group and was established to capture Eric's vision for a business focussed on long term stability and generation of profit for a purpose. The partnership between our commercial and charitable interests ensures that together, we operate as a social enterprise, continually giving back, whilst looking forward to a better, more sustainable future

## Main works – Spring 2025

During the spring of 2025 we shall commence and complete the installation of the piling for all piers and abutments and following the completion of this work, we shall commence the works associated with the construction of the concrete piers and abutments on both the East and West side of the river Soar.

Towards the beginning of the summer months, we shall be transporting the steel sections of the bridge to the site. These are coming from a fabrication yard in Belgium. These deliveries shall take place through the early hours of the morning, so not to disrupt the daily traffic flow.

### Building Bridges

Eric Wright has a wealth of experience in this area of Civil Engineering. Amongst our achievements are the well-known Pooley Bridge structure, the first one of its kind made of stainless steel. We are currently working on the Tram Bridge replacement in Preston, and we are also delivering a ground-breaking scheme of a 5 acre elevated walkway in Salford.

For more information on Eric Wright Civil Engineering please visit [ericwright.co.uk](http://ericwright.co.uk)



- Jez Riseley, Contracts Manager, EWCE
- Lesley Davison, Public Liaison Officer, EWCE

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### Meet the Contractor

We will be holding a Meet The Contractor Event in May, at a local venue, where you can ask our Team any questions, view aerial footage, and find out more about the scheme. You can receive an invitation, by email, to the event by signing up to the stakeholder database. Information will also be shared on the LCC Zouch Bridge webpage and through LCC's social media updates.

### Road closures and diversions

Temporary road closures will be required at certain times throughout the project due to the nature of the work, however, road closures will only take place for short durations and when essential for the delivery of materials / the bridge structure, tie ins for the new road to the old, and installation of the bridge. Advance warning will be provided before any road closures take place.

To keep up to date with the scheme, please see [www.leicestershire.gov.uk/zouch-bridge-replacement-scheme](http://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/zouch-bridge-replacement-scheme)

For all enquires please contact Public Liaison Officer Lesley Davison at Eric Wright:  
[ZouchBridgeEnquiries@ericwright.co.uk](mailto:ZouchBridgeEnquiries@ericwright.co.uk)