

Bridge closure delayed yet again

Written by Steve Glennie-Smith
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According to [Wellington Heath's page on Google](#), work to replace the deck of the now infamous Storesbrook Bridge, situated on the B4214 between Staplow and Ledbury, has been postponed again - this time until the beginning of January 2019.

The 117-year-old 'Iron Bridge' was initially scheduled to close on 1st November, but this was later postponed until next Wednesday, 28th November. However, the latest on the replacement bridge deck, which is being constructed off-site, is that it will be delivered later than originally anticipated. It is therefore necessary to push the entire work programme back to maintain the estimated 13-week closure period.

Herefordshire Council said the bridge was inspected again this week and is deemed safe to remain open to all traffic since no further deterioration had been detected. It will continue to be inspected on a regular basis to ensure it remains safe and, assuming that it does not have to be closed earlier for safety reasons, it will now close on **8th January 2019** and reopen on **5th April 2019**

(these dates were posted today on

[HC's link to roadworks.org's website](#)

- scroll down and select 'Next 3 months' in the map menu). Rhea Lane will also be closed for the whole of this period.

Andy Williams (Balfour Beatty Living Places, Hereford) said: "We are sorry if the change in closure plan causes any inconvenience for road users, however others may welcome the fact that it will now be open during the Christmas and New Year period. We will be writing to all local residents and business to update them and we will provide further updates on social media."

Bridge of Sighs indeed...