

## REPORT OF FINANCE MANAGER

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### **SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF CONTRACT STANDING ORDER 13 IN REGARD OF THE FOUL WATER SEWER CONNECTION CONTRACT AT CAREW CASTLE**

#### Purpose of Report

To seek approval for the use contract standing order 13 in respect of the contract for the foul water sewer connection at Carew Castle.

#### Background

In April 2019 as part of the redevelopment of Carew Castle site the Authority went out to tender for the provision the foul water sewer connection. The original tender sum was for £33,054.00. The final account has been agreed between the Authority, the quantity surveyor, who had been negotiating on behalf of the Authority, and with the contractor, Alun Griffiths (Contractors) Ltd is £58,639.82. The outcome of the project has been first class despite possibly the worst ground conditions for the majority of the dig both within the Scheduled Ancient Monument and in the public highway. However, the project as a whole has been extremely difficult to undertake and significantly costlier than originally estimated.

The reasons for additional costs include:-

- Extra over excavation in rock not only within the Scheduled Ancient Monument which has an impact on the Archaeology but also within the public highway as this slowed down the progress therefore increasing costs.
- A new manhole in the main road had to be relocated as it was positioned where two water mains intersected. Therefore leading to the works being stopped until Dwr Cymru Welsh Water could approve to relocate.
- The method of excavation of an electric cable (within the Scheduled Ancient Monument) had to be revised as due to the ground conditions it was not safe, lifting the existing cable out of the trench as originally planned in order to excavate was not practical. A revised detail had to be agreed with the Archaeologist & Cadw before works continued. This led to an increased excavation, slower progress, additional concrete protection to the cable etc. etc.
- The original intention to excavate between the Walled Garden and the Gatehouse with a separate small contractor (the final section of pipework), it soon became apparent that on completion of the works in the public highway this would not be possible due to the nature of the ground and time constraints (small contractor would take too much time and the deadline for the

installation of the pumps would not be met) therefore Alan Griffiths (Contractors) Ltd. were appointed to carry out the work at the same rates as was tendered.

#### Financial considerations

The funding for the additional expenditure on this project had been included in the large capital grant the Authority received from Welsh Government in the autumn of 2019.

The Authority's standing order on major contracts states the 'authority to approve the use of Standing Order 13 rests with the Chief Executive (National Park Officer) and Chief Financial Officer only, with the justification for the decision being recorded and retained on the project file. Further 'all approvals under these Standing Orders (13) shall be reported to the next NPA meeting for members' endorsement'.

#### Risk considerations

There are no risk considerations.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

**Members resolve to approve for the use contract standing order 13 in the contract for the foul water sewer connection contract at Carew Castle.**

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