Foundations scare shuts Baal's Bridge

By DAVID QUINN

ONE of Limerick's most historic bridges, Baal's Bridge, will be closed for another six weeks.

Limerick Corporation has confirmed that following a recent structural survey they have decided to strengthen and reinforce the foundations of the bridge.

The present Baal's Bridge was built in 1899 replacing its 18th century predecessor.

Limerick Corporation's project engineer, Seamus Ryan, said: "We ordered the survey of the foundations as a precaution because we are lowering the bed of the Abbey river during the course of river navigation improvements and pipe laying."

Because of its age, it is not known if, when the present Baal's bridge was built, new foundations were laid or if one bridge was built on top the other.

As the new Abbey Bridge is open to traffic the closure of the bridge should not cause too much inconvenience to motorists.