Antique lamps on bridge to get facelift

Sarsfield Bridge €150k conservation project

Mike Dunne

The restoration of the Victorian lamp standards and lanterns is to be especially welcomed as they have fallen into a very bad state of disrepair in recent years,” commented the former city councillor.

Sarsfield Bridge is an integral part of our heritage and is an architectural gem and therefore every effort should be made to ensure that it is preserved for future generations. The bridge was designed by the world-renowned Alexander Nimmo and its design is based on the Pont Neuf in Paris. The foundation stone was laid on October 2, 1824 and it cost an estimated £69,000 to build. It was opened by the then Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, Black Jack FitzGibbon, or Lord Clare as he was more commonly known, on August 5, 1838. It was then known as the Wellshay Bridge.”

Mr Griffin added that the major structural works already carried out on Sarsfield Bridge in recent months would preserve the historic crossing for future generations and expressed gratitude to Mr Murray and Limerick City Council for having secured the funding to carry out the works. Former Environment Minister John Gormley had also taken “a genuine interest” in realising the project, Mr Griffin said.