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To: [TRANSPORTINFRASTRUCTURE](#)
Cc: clerk@madingleyparishcouncil.org.uk; cllr.naughton@madingleyparishcouncil.org.uk
Subject: Objection to Closure of the Coton Footpath
Date: 07 January 2025 10:18:17

For the Attention of the Secretary of State for Transport:

Re: Cambourne to Cambridge Busway

Madingley Parish Council objects to the request by the Greater Cambridge Partnership to close the footpath running between Coton School and Madingley Rd (A1303, opposite the American Cemetery).

This is a popular path. It is used by children who attend Coton School but live in Madingley and whose parents choose to walk with them to school. It is also popular with walkers and runners since it links up with paths to the villages beyond Coton (Grantchester, Newnham and Barton) and beyond Madingley (to Girton), as well as allowing Coton and Madingley residents to walk to their respective village pubs.

In 2022 Madingley Parish Council made a successful LHI application for signage on Madingley Rd to warn drivers of the presence of pedestrians waiting to cross the road between the two sections of footpath on either side of Madingley Rd. Before applying, we left a notice asking people using the path to email our clerk if they felt that warning signage for motorists would be helpful. Responses came from Coton parents who walked to Madingley with their children to use the Madingley play area, many walkers and runners, both local and from further afield, and residents of both villages wanting to walk rather than drive with family and friends to their respective village pubs or to visit the American Cemetery or Madingley Hall.

Madingley is not well served with footpaths, and for a busway to reduce the pedestrian options for local people is plainly detrimental to the well-being – both mental and physical - of all the current users of this path.

In the RSPB reserve at Fen Drayton Lakes (near Swavesey) it is permissible to cross the guided busway; signage advises pedestrians to look both ways before crossing. Should the busway from Cambourne to Grange Rd be constructed we would urge that the footpath isn't closed permanently but that pedestrians are permitted to cross with due care, and signage on the busway warns drivers of the presence of pedestrians at the crossing point. Any pedestrian able to cross Madingley Road is well able to cross a busway.

We would argue that any other footpaths the GCP is hoping to close permanently should also remain open once the busway construction work is complete.

With kind regards,

R. Charles Crichton-Stuart

Chair, Madingley Parish Council

Parish Council Correspondence may be sent to:
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