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Direct line: [redacted]
9th September 2025

National Trust

Secretary of State for Transport
c/o Transport Infrastructure Planning Unit,
Department for Transport,
Great Minster House,
33 Horseferry Road,
London,
SW1P 4DR

By email only.

Dear Sir or Madam,

Transport and Works Act 1992

The Transport and Works (Applications and Objections Procedure) (England and Wales) Rules 2006

The Proposed Cambourne to Cambridge Order ("the Order")

Request for deemed planning permission under section 90(2A) Town and Country Planning Act 1990

Withdrawal of Objection of National Trust (ID CD2-OBJ-250)

Since the submission of the National Trust's objection to the Transport Works Act Order (TWAO) application on the Cambourne to Cambridge busway, the National Trust has been in negotiation with Cambridgeshire County Council as the developer to discuss our objection and any possible way to resolve our concerns.

As a result of these negotiations, we have now come to an agreement with the developer, should the Order be made, that commits them to the creation of orchard character via Biodiversity Net Gain and allows the Trust to better influence the detailed plans for the development going forward, protecting the covenant to the best of our ability. This outcome is considered proportionate to the interests that the National Trust have in this particular scheme.

The agreement between the National Trust and the developer also extends to the disapplication of the National Trust covenants in so far as they relate to the Scheme and therefore, it is no longer necessary to include any disapplication of the National Trust covenants within the draft Order. Accordingly, Article 55 (Disapplication of agreements restricting use of land) of the draft Order should be removed in its entirety. We have been advised that the revised draft Order will be provided to the Secretary of State and their Inspectors for consideration of the TWAO, through the public inquiry and beyond.

On this basis, we therefore withdraw our objection.

We maintain some concerns regarding this development and welcome and support the Woodland Trust's objection to the development (ID CD2-OBJ-294), who are best placed to comment on the impact of the scheme on the veteran trees and the habitats they provide at Coton Orchard. We intend to monitor the public inquiry closely.

I trust that this letter is sufficient to update the Secretary of State on our position

Yours sincerely

Claudia Clemente-Benfield MRTPI
Planning Adviser
Midlands and East of England Region

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