From: [redacted]
To: TRANSPORTINFRASTRUCTURE
Subject: Objection to Transport and Work Act Order to the Department for Transport (DfT) for a new busway linking Cambourne to Cambridge
Date: 05 January 2025 11:21:12

I, James Jackson of [redacted], am writing to make a formal objection to the "Application for a Transport and Work Act Order to the Department for Transport (DfT) for a new busway linking Cambourne to Cambridge", as submitted by the Cambridge Greater Partnership on 12 November 2024.

I understand the need to improve the travel infrastructure between Cambridge and points west. I work at Madingley Rise, on the Madingley Road, and witness the appalling traffic congestion every day.

My objection to the GCP's submission to an off-road busway from Madingley Mulch through Coton and Coton orchard is centred on their (the GCP's) absolute refusal, time and again, properly to address and evaluate an alternative on-road inbound scheme. This scheme may, or may not, in the end prove practical --- but it has certainly been very carefully considered and thought out by the many well-informed and professional people who have proposed it. It has been repeatedly misrepresented and then ignored by the GCP and their spokesmen, with false objections and difficulties raised concerning the American Cemetery and the adjacent SSSI site of Madingley Wood --- those objections dishonestly putting words in the mouths of those in charge of those sites, who have made plain that they do not agree with them. This is an unsatisfactory and improper way to achieve a goal that is inevitably contentious. The alternative on-road inbound scheme should properly be considered and evaluated before a decision is made.

Why do I care? Because that stretch of land south of the Madingley Road is the one of the very few bits of uplifting unspoilt landscape in the whole greater Cambridge area, with beautiful views looking south from Madingley Hill towards the chalk ridges of Barrington, Wimpole and Royston. It would be utterly spoilt by the off-road busway, which would also irreparably damage Coton Orchard, a wildlife site of value to many. I want to be sure that such devastation is really necessary before it is carried out. That requires at least the courtesy of properly considering the on-road inbound proposal.

yours sincerely,

james jackson

--
Professor James Jackson CBE, FRS
[redacted]

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