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From: Matthew French <[redacted]>
Sent: 06 March 2025 22:39
To: TRANSPORTINFRASTRUCTURE
Subject: Objection to Transport and Work Act Order to the Department for Transport (DfT) for a new busway to the southeast of Cambridge

I, Matthew French 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 to the southeast of Cambridge", as submitted by the Cambridge Greater Partnership on 9 January 2025.

The grounds for this objection are the following:

I believe this scheme, which creates 5 miles of tarmac busway across open countryside, is far too damaging and far too expensive compared to the alternative first proposed by the GCP in 2018. The additional expense of the current proposed scheme is one which the nation can ill afford at this time of economic distress. The original scheme involved building sections of bus lane next to the A1307 and just 1 mile of new road (busway). It was shelved in favour of the current proposed scheme as it integrated with a Cambridge city transport scheme. But that scheme has since been abandoned so the basic premise for the scheme has changed.

The alternative, less damaging and less expensive scheme AVOIDS the following:

- The building of **two ugly bridges**over the River Granta chalk stream and putting Hobson's Conduit chalk stream into a culvert.
- Carving **an ugly tarmac scar**across the Gog Magog Hills landscape, one of the most important landscapes in Cambridgeshire.
- Inevitable **additional car parking problems the village** as people from outside the village dump their cars near to the busway in order to use it to get into Cambridge.
- Cutting across fields close to our village making these areas vulnerable to **future development and further harm to the countryside**.
- important and beautiful landscapes in the Cambridge area. We don't have many hills in Cambridge and this scheme destroys the only ones that we have!
- Building **a new road through a countryside park**, to the detriment of its future users and nature.
- The **destruction of valuable arable land** and greenbelt – forever.

The alternative scheme alongside the A1307 better serves the planned expansion of the Cambridge Biomedical Campus and serves more of the Campus.

As for the cycleway alongside it, cycle routes in this area are already under construction and include the Linton Greenway which will connect Cambridge to Babraham, Granta Park and Linton; and the Sawston Greenway that will connect Cambridge to Sawston. Stapleford and Shelford are already well served by the DNA cycle path.

In Stapleford we already have easy access to both buses and railway, with a brand new railway station being built in a neighbouring village. The proposed busway is out on the edge of the village and I can see no occasion on which we, or other villagers, would use this proposed busway in preference to what we have access to already.

Thank you for taking time to consider my objection, I urge you to reconsider the original scheme, to save our precious countryside and save huge amount of public funds that can be better spent elsewhere.

Regards,

Matthew French
[redacted]

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