

TWAO Objection to Layby closure in Hardwick (corrected version 2) dated 17/03/2025

Original sent by email 06/01/2025 to Transportinfrastructure@dft.gov.uk – acknowledged 05/02/2025

Ref C2C-1-00 : Transport and Work Act Order to the Department for Transport (DfT) for a new busway, and travel hub, and also providing a path for walkers and cyclists linking Cambourne to Cambridge.

We are long term residents of Hardwick, Cambridgeshire and formally object to this TWAO submitted by Cambridge County Council which unfairly affects the village of Hardwick and in our view requires more thought.

We host the Cambourne to Cambridge Busway (C2C) on the St Neots Road, Hardwick. As the C2C passes through Hardwick, it is designed to run on the existing St Neots Road, Hardwick without modification to the road infrastructure. This we believe is wrong.

The design shows alongside the St Neots Road, a 3.5m wide mixed-use cycle and footway south of the entire length of the C2C route. This is planned to sit between the businesses and residential properties and the St Neots Road. In order to accommodate this much needed infrastructure, the proposal of the current C2C design removes all the laybys which currently exist to accommodate staff, customers, visitors, delivery vehicles, suppliers of services including bin lorries, the postal delivery vans and utility companies vehicles **and buses** serving the village.

This TWAO includes traffic orders for no stopping or parking on St Neots Road both north side and south side which in effect isolates businesses and residents.

Despite the objections of the Hardwick Parish Council when this was first proposed in 2022, guided by a survey of residents' views, the layby removal is still planned in this TWAO. The objections were raised to the Greater Cambridge Partnership but ignored. Our popular local Vet practice is on St Neots Road and has stated that if the hijacking of the laybys goes ahead it will have no alternative but to move out of the village. Our long- standing agricultural business since 1945 has already decided to close and leave the village.

All residents and businesses affected are on the south side of St Neots Road. There are no properties on the north side of the road but there is a wide verge mostly just grass which could provide surface area either for

1. Expanding the width of St Neots Road a few metres northwards and in the process accommodating the space required for the mixed-use path south of the St Neots Road without removal of laybys or

2. Accommodating the mixed use path itself.

In our opinion, in its eagerness to please the residents of Cambourne, insufficient thought has been afforded to the hundreds of residents and businesses of Hardwick especially St Neots Road.

We object to the approach taken and ask that the plans be revisited, please.

Kind regards

June and Alan Everitt

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