

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Sunnica Energy Farm](#)  
**Subject:** Sunnica West Site A - Secondary Access  
**Date:** 03 March 2023 19:29:20

---

RE: Sunnica West Site A - Secondary Access

Snailwell Parish Council became aware of the AECOM/Sunnica proposal to adopt a 'Secondary Access Route to West Site A from the A14/A142 Junction 37 as mentioned by AECOM/Sunica at a recent public meeting.

Could I please bring to your attention Snailwell Parish Councils perspective of this proposal by AECOM/Sunnica to use Short road, Snailwell as a 'Secondary Access' From Junction 37 of the A14 to West Site A.

For clarity may I draw your attention to Junction 37. This junction has been designated by highways as follows.

**Highways Agency Problem Priority Junctions (2009):** The A14 Junction 37 was identified by the then Highways Agency as one of the top ten worst (congestion and safety) junctions in the region.

The issues with congestion and safety at Junction 37 of the A14 is well documented by Highways England and AECOM. AECOM has frequently had to focus its attention to this matter in previous planning applications including Hatchfield Farm. In that application Aecom, with specific reference to Junction 37 of the A14/A142 AECOM actually state :-

"Aecom have identified that bridge widening to 4 lanes is likely to be required and have **confirmed that the Hatchfield Farm exceeds capacity (Aecom July 2016 report paragraph 8.2.9 – Appendix 24).**"

Despite significant increases in traffic at this junction, Hatchfield Farm is currently under construction and no additional lanes have been possible and no upgrade made to the A14 junction 37 to date. Sufficient funding is not yet available to upgrade this junction.

For further clarity may I remind you that Short road has a speed limit, predominately of 60 MPH and is both in the county of Suffolk and Cambridgeshire and therefore a responsibility for their respective highways department.

The section in Suffolk, the westerly part from the railway hump back bridge to the A142, passes through Plantation Stud and is designated as a 'Single Track' 60 MPH road through the Stud Farm. This road has been recently re laid which has covered over successive ad hoc edge repairs resulting in an unplanned broadening of the single track road. Two cars or small vans can now pass in opposite directions but this is not possible if one of the vehicles is an HGV. The road is simply too narrow through the stud farm and most of the road up to and including the bridge. If two HGV meet in opposite direction or one HGV and one van or an increasingly more common SUV, one or both vehicles have to stop or use the verge to pass each other causing significant erosion of the road verge. There is insufficient width to safely pass a cyclist, pedestrian or horse rider, in either direction.

Visibility over the railway hump back bridge is extremely poor and often vehicles cannot see other road users, including cyclists, horse riders or pedestrians. The issue becomes extremely dangerous along the length of Short Road when large vehicles pass in opposite directions as there is absolutely no room for anything else on the road.

The eastern side of the Railway Hump back bridge leads up to Snailwell and its 30MPH limit starting at the building of Plantation Stud. This section of Short Road up to Snailwell Stud Buildings is categorised as PRV or Protected Road Verge Status, granted by The Cambridge County Council

under a designation E6. The verges are already suffering from ad hoc excursions from the tarmac and at one point the excursions off the road have caused significant damage and caused what appears to be a small lay by. All plant life has been destroyed by this erosion and is in fact at the start of the PRV. Any increase in HGV traffic will guarantee further damage to this designated verge.

In conclusion Snailwell Parish Council has significant concerns regarding the suitability of the route proposed by AECOM on behalf of Sunnica. Furthermore Snailwell Parish Council consider this amendment to be likely to cause harm to our infrastructure and increase the risk of serious injury to road users along Short Road and the A14/A142 junction 37.

Snailwell Parish Council requests that this proposed access route be removed from AECOM/Sunnica's DCO and specifically, Sunnica be mandated to not utilise this access route for any HGV or commercial traffic in perpetuity of the scheme.

Thank you

Peter Moggridge

Chair Snailwell Parish Council