

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: 15 June 2015 09:24
To: A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon; Steve Dartford
Subject: Fenstanton A14 Written Representation to The Planning Inspectorate

Dear Sir's

Fenstanton is a village of approximately 3,000 parishioners who reside in approximately 1300 homes within the Parish. We are a substantial community that wishes to exercise its right to make Written Representation regarding the construction of the new A14.

When the existing A14 was constructed in the late 1960's it dissected the Fenstanton community and residents on the south side of the village are required to use an underpass to gain walking access the village high street.

Over the following years the village has been subjected to a significant deterioration in the level visual pollution, noise pollution and air pollution as the volume of A14 traffic has increased beyond all initial expectations.

With the construction of the new A14, many of our residents will be sandwiched between the old and new roads which will converge a short distance East of the village. Residents on Hilton Road, The Gables and Pear Tree Close will be mostly affected by poor air quality and noise pollution accumulating from both directions.

When there is a traffic incident on the existing A14 the village high street experiences significant increases in traffic through the village centre which already suffers from unacceptable levels of traffic negotiating parked vehicles.

During peak travel times and/or when there is a traffic incident on the existing A14 the village centre and Low Road become blocked by traffic diverting off the A14 through the village and using Low Road as a rat run to and from St Ives to circumvent the traffic problems being experienced on the existing A14.

The CCC, HDC & Parish plan for 2036 has identified 4 major development areas which include building approximately 80 additional houses on the abandoned Fenstanton Dairy Crest site and approximately 40 additional houses on the on 'The Park' land north of existing A14. Additionally the village provides existing allotments which are used by residents. All of this land abounds the existing A14 on the Northern side of the village.

The Fenstanton 2036 plan also includes a further two developments and specifically excludes any future proposals for widening the existing A14 through Fenstanton Village.

Fenstanton parish has been exposed to ever increasing and unwanted air pollution, noise pollution and visual pollution for too many years. Now is the time to take advantage of the new A14 proposed route to reduce the effects on our village.

We are not in favour of any alternative proposals which would move the new A14 closer to Fenstanton village or any proposals which would widen the existing A14 along the existing route where it passes through Fenstanton, such proposals will encounter significant resistance from Fenstanton residents and the Parish Council.

Fenstanton Parish Council has taken this opportunity to submit a written

representation, some elements of the following topics are also contained in our Statement of Common Ground, to be agreed and signed off with Highways England:
In favour of the scheme: It is agreed that the current line of the scheme is acceptable, as long as it does not move any closer to the village. support for this position is being made on behalf of Pear Tree Close, Hilton Road, The Gables residents and, the wider parish.

Borrow pits and their legacy use for leisure: The parish council welcomes the potential opportunity for recreational use of borrow pits beside Hilton Road. The council would like to explore the potential legacy, subject to landowner agreement. Any development of the Borrow Pits for a Nature Reserve or for use for leisure should involve HDC Tourism who would be responsible for future maintenance.

Bunding needs to be higher than 2m: Mitigation of noise pollution is not considered adequate as currently proposed. The parish council seeks a commitment to providing a higher bund to mitigate noise and reduce visual impact.

Tree line and visual impacts of HGVs needs to be re-considered: Visual screening is required as well as a higher earth bund. The parish council seeks a commitment to establish additional tree cover between Pear Tree Close on the Hilton Road and the new A14. Further it wishes to see a feathering of the trees between mature and saplings to provide immediate protection.

Air quality, light and noise pollution are concerns: The de-trunking of the existing road and the new A14 leaves the southern part of Fenstanton (ie south of the current A14) in a triangle between new and de-trunked roads. Environmental impacts are not measured by the Parish Council, therefore we are looking to the District Council to measure air quality parameters as the scheme progresses. If any impairment of air is observed, the parish council will seek effective mitigation.

Old Clayfields: The Hilton Road is adjacent to the property. The northern edge of the proposed bridge over the new A14 ends at the front of this property. There is also a sewage pumping station at this location where tankers regularly park. There is insufficient space for parking and this presents a danger that needs to be taken into account.

The current position of the proposed Hilton Road bridge gradient on the northern side also commences directly in front of Old Clayfields, which introduces a danger of speeding traffic en-route from Hilton. We would propose that the start of the gradient is moved away from the driveway entrance.

Culverts from Hilton and Conington meet at this location. The property owner has used hard core and soil to raise the level of their property to reduce flooding risk. The parish council, on behalf of the property owner is concerned that surface run off from the new Hilton Road bridge will increase flood risk to the property.

South of Old Clayfields on the eastern side of Hilton road, a new access is proposed to access the attenuation ponds. The parish council is concerned that without specific security measures to limit access the land could be used by travellers.

Access roads to connecting villages should not be blocked during construction: Continuity of travel with planned severance is important to Fenstanton residents. The parish council seeks assurance that connectivity will not be lost during

construction of the Hilton Road and Conington Road bridges. The roads are used to transport schoolchildren to and from Hilton and Conington to attend Fenstanton Primary School.

The parish council also seeks assurance that debris, mud and litter will be regularly cleaned to prevent local impacts.

Workers accommodation arrangements need to be communicated locally: The Parish Council seeks to identify where workers will be accommodated during construction.

The parish council seeks assurance that potential impacts will be managed and monitored.

Materials and construction impacts: The parish council seeks assurance that residents at Old Clayfields & Pear Tree Close are protected from night-time construction activity. This needs to be firmed up in the code of construction practice and communicated to residents in Fenstanton.

Construction impacts, including light and noise pollution: During construction and within operation, haul road use needs to be maintained on the existing A14 to access the borrow pits. This would be agreeable locally subject to Highways England confirmation

Detailed design is required, it is not currently clear how practicalities of the existing A14 and new road will work: The parish council seeks clarification on matters such as the gradient of the new bridge on the Hilton Road.

Traffic modelling requires greater clarity: The impacts of delays and frequent A14 log-jams create substantial build-up of traffic in Fenstanton. The parish council awaits the revised traffic modelling to understand potential local impacts and should align with the County Council Transport Plan.

General Observation: Fenstanton Parish Council wish to see the declassification of the current A14 to include the removal of the elevated section of the A14 in Huntingdon. Were this not to happen village residents on the south side of the A14 who will be sandwiched between the old and new roads will suffer from noise and air pollution resulting from the use of both the old and new A14 roads by HGV's as such pollution will accumulate from both directions.

For and on behalf of Fenstanton Parish Council.
Mr Paul Kent
Chairman

P.S. Please confirm receipt of this Written Representation by return e mail

This email was scanned by the Government Secure Intranet anti-virus service supplied by Vodafone in partnership with Symantec. (CCTM Certificate Number 2009/09/0052.) In case of problems, please call your organisations IT Helpdesk.

Communications via the GSi may be automatically logged, monitored and/or recorded for legal purposes.