

From: Solon & Co [mailto:paul.solon@solonandco.com]
Sent: 26 June 2015 15:36
To: A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon
Cc: Steve Jones; Bonny Pailing
Subject: Fwd: URGENT : A14 Improvement Scheme

Dear Planning Inspectorate

I am Chairman of Elsworth Parish Council. Like the Coalition of Parish Councils (of which we are a member), we have also instructed Arup not to file their draft Elsworth SOCG today.

The facts are that, at Arup's request, Elsworth Parish Council met them on 4 June to discuss the preparation of a SOCG on the basis of a template provided by the Applicant. We expressed our views at length and asked a number of questions about the Scheme. Arup's representatives took copious notes and agreed to obtain answers to our questions and produce a draft SOCG for our consideration.

That draft:

- was only sent to us at 17.20pm on 24 June - i.e. Three weeks after the meeting but only one day before the deadline for submission;
- was apparently authored by two people who were not even at the meeting;
- does not follow the format of the template;
- comprehensively misrepresents our views;
- fails to address the substance of the issues we raised;
- fails to give straight answers to our questions and
- on 18 issues out of 20, fails to state whether the Applicant agrees or disagrees with us on the issue in question.

Whether intentionally or not, the Applicant's representatives have made a mockery of the SOCG process. Instead of Applicant engaging properly and constructively with us, we consider that we have been fobbed off with anodyne and formulaic responses full of obfuscating jargon. We wish to protest strongly about this and we request that you direct the Applicant to conduct this consultation process properly.

In the meantime, and on the advice of Mr Ian Wallace, we propose to file our own version of the SOCG expressing our views. We will do this before the next deadline of 7 July.

It is a stated objective of the Scheme to leave a 'positive legacy' for local communities near to the new road. If that objective is to be achieved, then the Applicant should be required to pay just as much attention to the interests and concerns of local communities as is being given to national strategic interests. The legitimate concerns of local people ought not to be brushed aside as being 'outside the remit' of the Applicant.

I will write again shortly.

Yours truly

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