

From: Chris Turner [REDACTED]
Sent: 16 September 2015 17:33
To: A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon
Cc: Robert Stone (clerk@drydraytonpc.org.uk); Howard Russell [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Traffic and transportation hearing on September 16th

Dear Sirs

Thank you for the opportunity to speak at today's hearing. The following is what I said:

My name is Chris Turner and I live in Dry Drayton on Oakington Road, which is the main 'C' road passing north to south through the centre of our village. I'm speaking as a representative of our Parish Council although I am not a councillor myself.

I believe that as they stand the proposals for A14 improvement should be rejected because the design of the Girton interchange is deficient in that it does not provide access to and from the westbound A428, other than the existing continuation of the A14 coming from the east. This is very important to Dry Dayton because all A428 traffic to and from the A14 west, the B1050, the B1049 and Cambridge's Huntingdon road goes through our village and in the scheme as currently proposed this would continue to be the case.

I suggest that in this application for the A14 improvement, Highways England is not taking into consideration its development of the A428 into a major route from Cambridge to Milton Keynes and the west which has been ongoing for the last few years. Moreover, roads such as the A14 and the A428 serve not only to move traffic through Cambridgeshire but they also serve as both radial and circular commuter routes for Cambridge itself.

There is a massive increase in the population around west Cambridge with many thousands of new houses in St. Neots, Papworth, Cambourne, Northstowe and elsewhere, and we foresee further developments such as Bourn airfield. A lot of traffic from these villages accesses the A14 and A428 by coming through Dry Drayton today and the 'C' road through our village has already turned from a quiet country road to a busy through-route, often with traffic nose-to-tail. Much of this traffic ignores the 30 mph speed limit and Dry Drayton residents are suffering ever-increasing disruption. The road through Dry Drayton divides our central park and residents have to cross it every day to get to and from the school and the church. Parishioners are increasingly concerned about the likelihood of a tragic accident.

I believe that the proposed new local access road in the north of our parish will trigger a further increase in through traffic as it makes Dry Drayton an even more attractive and busier route in and out of Cambridge, between surrounding villages and for accessing the A428 and A14 west.

Frankly, it seems to me that Highways England is knowingly allowing the road through Dry Drayton to develop into a class 'B' road in all but name. But surely, schemes such as this one should benefit communities like ours as well as improving our national infrastructure. However, Dry Drayton sees only a negative legacy from the A14 improvement scheme as currently proposed.

This problem could be solved by adding an entrance and exit to and from the westbound A428 at the south-west end of the Girton interchange with a short connection to the roundabout on the proposed local access road. Through traffic would then no longer need to come through Dry Drayton (and Scotland Farm) and this should also benefit the village of Madingley.

To conclude this matter, I ask you to reject the scheme as it currently stands and request that Highways England submits new proposals with provision for A428 access as I have just described.

Finally, may I draw your attention to other matters raised by our Parish Council and residents with regard to drainage provisions, inadequate noise barriers, cycle paths, weight restrictions, construction traffic and improved traffic calming measures. Please refer to the Statement of Common Ground between Highways England and Dry Drayton Parish Council wherein many of these matters are not agreed.

Thank you.

Chris Turner

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted contact information]