

From: Doug Whittle [<mailto:doug@gdp-financialplanning.co.uk>]
Sent: 11 November 2015 10:19
To: A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon
Subject: Deadline 15 - Ref TR010018

Please find below some comments on document HE/A14/EX/237. Please could you confirm receipt and confirm that they have been received prior to Deadline 15. Due to the short timescale I have not been able to table these comments for approval by the Girton Parish Council but I am confident that they represent the views of the residents in the flood risk area of Girton Village.

Section 18.1.3 the description of the cause of flooding in Girton does not reflect the experience of the residents in the flood risk area of the village. The primary cause of all previous floods has been from flood water in the Washpit and Beck Brook overtopping the banks. The first recorded flood to properties in Dodford Lane was in 1978, shortly after the completion of the M11/A604 (now the A14) junction, since when the drainage from the carriageways discharged directly into the two brooks. Whether the timing of this was a coincidence or an unforeseen consequence of the road improvements is not known.

Section 18.1.4. The JBA/EA model underestimated the flood levels in both the Washpit and Beck Brooks and therefore the results should not be relied on.

Page 2 – Executive Summary. This states that “Further work would be undertaken in future design stages to determine if mitigation for pre-existing flood risk could be incorporated into the scheme”. In view of the observations regarding Section 18.1.3 above we are very concerned that this is incorporated into the design brief. Recent meetings with representatives of Highways England and the Girton Parish Council, to agree a “Statement of Common Ground” (HE/A14/EX/233/PC16) have indicated that HE are not taking this suggestion on board.

Section 27.1.2. We agree that the EA’s suggestion to consider linking Beck Brook to Borrow Pit 6 to mitigate the flood risk to Girton and would like this to be included in the final scheme. We also agree that reducing the outflow from the attenuation ponds below that of greenfield rates should also be incorporated.

Kind regards

Douglas Whittle
Flood and Drainage Officer
Girton Parish Council.

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