

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [A303 Stonehenge](#)  
**Subject:** Application by Highways England for an Order Granting Development Consent for the A303 Amesbury to Berwick Down  
**Date:** 10 September 2020 13:16:56

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Dear Sirs,

I write in as a concerned citizen in respect of the proposed road widening which threatens a World Heritage Site, and wonder why that means so little to the British Gvt.

I am not an expert in archeological matters and World Heritage Site issues, however these people are - below - and I feel that it's important that the Government start listening to experts again and not just do whatever they feel like - with a view only to commerce and the needs of the economy. The recent lockdown has shown us that people can work from home very easily which would limit the numbers of cars on the A303 - as well as increasing the quality of people's lives.

There are many other alternatives to widening a road near this unique and precious site.

We live on a planet with finite resources. Infinite growth from finite resources is an infantile, juvenile, immature expectation and needs to change. The world is in a climate crisis and we need to start thinking and acting differently.

I attach a [consultation paper](#) from a consortium of Stonehenge experts - listed below - and request that we as a society stop ripping up and destroying any more of this ancient and beautiful land and instead protect it and find other, creative ways to thrive - rather than more of the same, forever.

Quoting from the consultation paper, page 8:

In the century since Stonehenge came into public ownership at the end of the First World War, there have been several big buildings put into its landscape. Each was seen as sensible at the time. Yet within as short a time as a decade(!) each was seen as a mistake, so grave a mistake it was not just regretted but demolished. So each modern structure has now disappeared from visible view. Yet the scars left, irretrievably wrecking the archaeology, will never be repaired.

- Immediately after the then Ministry of Works began to care for Stonehenge, it was obvious that houses for its custodial staff should be built nearby, so the stones would always have guardians close by: within 15 years, the houses were demolished as a hideous and wrong intrusion.
- At much the same time, it was obvious that visitors needed refreshment and facilities, so a Stonehenge Caf?? was built close by: again, within 15 years, the caf?? was demolished as a hideous and wrong intrusion.
- In the 1960s, it was obvious that the car-park was too small, the working buildings for custodians too small and the refreshment facilities were poor. And it was dangerous for visitors to walk across the fast and busy A344 road to reach the stones. So in 1969/70 a large car-park, semi-underground buildings, and access tunnel under the A344 were built. This was uncontroversial, an obvious improvement. Yet, within 15 years, the head of English Heritage declared their abolition to be its highest priority,

and MPs called these facilities a "national disgrace" which must be removed. Now they have been, leaving a wrecked area so close to Stonehenge covering several hectares.

Let's stop making the same stupid mistakes over and over and over and over and over again.

Yours faithfully,

**Nina B Jacoby-Owen**

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