

## Becky Evans

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 09 June 2021 16:00  
**To:** Becky Evans  
**Subject:** Re: Mr and Mrs Jones - Grove Farm Deadline 8 9th June

RE: GROVE FARM CM14 5NG I.D. [20025656](#)

WE HAVE THOUGHT FURTHER ABOUT THE IMPACT OF THE LATEST ROAD LAYOUT ON OUR FAMILY LIFE. THE PLAN RECENTLY RECEIVED FROM HIGHWAYS ENGLAND SHOWS NO EXISTING OR PROPOSED LEVELS SO WE CANNOT FULLY GAUGE THE EFFECT OF THE ROAD LAYOUT ON OUR PROPERTY. WE THANK THE EXAMINING AUTHORITY FOR VISITING OUR SITE LAST WEEK AND TAKING AN APPROACH TO UNDERSTAND THE IMPACT FROM A HUMAN LEVEL AND NOT JUST NUMBERS CREATED FROM COMPUTERS IN TERMS OF NOISE AND VISUAL.

TWO ISSUES STILL REMAIN WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN SATISFACTORILY ADDRESSED BY HIGHWAYS ENGLAND. WE ASK THAT THESE ARE THOUGHT ABOUT FURTHER.

### 1. FARM ENTRANCE

HIGHWAYS ENGLAND REFER TO 70MPH SPEEDS OF VEHICLES PASSING OUR PROPERTY AND ACCELERATING TRAFFIC AS BEING THE REASONS WHY THE ACCESS CANNOT BE MOVED A SHORT DISTANCE FURTHER NORTH.

HAS THERE EVER BEEN A TRAFFIC SPEED SURVEY AT OUR ENTRANCE? AS CLEARLY VEHICLE SPEEDS ARE NOT THIS HIGH. ENTRANCES OFF MAIN ROADS WHERE TRAFFIC IS ACCELERATING IS VERY COMMON AROUND THE COUNTRY.

THE LATEST ROAD LAYOUT WILL MOVE OUR ENTRANCE CLOSER TO THE ROUNDABOUT. OUR ENTRANCE WILL BE AFFECTED, CONTRARY TO STATEMENTS MADE BY HIGHWAYS ENGLAND. WE WILL ON A DAILY BASIS THEN STRUGGLE DAILY WITH USING THE ENTRANCE WHEN TRAFFIC CONTINUES TO FLOW AROUND THE ROUNDABOUT.

OUR EXPERTS CONSIDER MOVING THE ACCESS NORTH OF THE SUB-STATION WILL MAKE OUR ENTRANCE AND THE ACCESS FOR MAINTENANCE VEHICLES SAFER. AFTER MANY DECADES LIVING HERE, WE AGREE. AS MENTIONED IN OUR PREVIOUS EMAIL, OUR CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN LIVE HERE AND WE HAVE TO MAKE SURE THAT THEY ARE SAFE AT ALL TIMES.

### 2. NOISE BARRIERS

FROM THE LATEST RESPONSE IT LOOKS LIKE YOU ARE GOING TO ALLOW A VISUAL FENCE WITH FURTHER NOISE SURVEYS LATER. AT THE LAST HEARING, YOU WERE NOT SATISFIED THAT THE NOISE SURVEY WAS ABLE TO MEASURE THE HIGHEST NOISE LEVELS CAUSED BY REVVING OF ENGINES SCREECHING OF BRAKES, USE OF CAR HORNS AND SIRENS. THE HIGHWAYS ENGLAND NOISE EXPERT AT THE LAST HEARING AGREED THAT THE LOUDEST 10% OF MEASURED NOISE IS NOT CONSIDERED. THESE HIGHEST NOISES ARE THE VERY NOISES THAT WILL CAUSE US MOST CONCERN BUT ARE BEING IGNORED.

WE FEEL THIS SITUATION IS UNIQUE TO US AND AMENDING THE VISUAL FENCING TO A NOISE BARRIER WILL OFFSET MOVING THE A12 MUCH CLOSER TO OUR BEDROOM WINDOWS. THIS IS WHY WE NEED AS A MINIMUM THE NOISE BARRIER AROUND THE FRONT AND SIDES OF OUR PROPERTIES. OUR BEDROOM WINDOWS FACE DIRECTLY ON TO THE NEW AND MUCH CLOSER PROPOSED SLIP ROAD. TREE PLANTING WILL NOT PROVIDE ANY NOISE ATTENUATION EVEN WHEN FULLY GROWN.

WE UNDERSTAND FROM STATEMENTS MADE BY HIGHWAYS ENGLAND THAT THEY ARE PROPOSING TO PUT NOISE DAMPENING TARMAC ON THE ROAD IN FRONT. OUR EXPERTS HAVE SAID THAT THIS TARMAC WOULD NEED TO BE REPLACED EVERY 6-10 YEARS AT LEAST TO KEEP THE NOISE DAMPENING EFFECT AND WILL BE COVERED IN ANY EVENT NEAR TO THE TRAFFIC SIGNALS WITH A COLOURED SKID SURFACE. THEY NEED TO UNDERTAKE TO REPLACE THIS TARMAC REGULARLY??? SURELY THIS TARMAC WITH ITS LITTLE HOLES IN IT TO TAKE THE NOISE WILL FILL UP WITH DUST AND DIRT OVER TIME MAKING IT POINTLESS.

WE ARE GRATEFUL THAT THE EXAMINING AUTHORITY CAME OUT AND STOOD AT VARIOUS POINTS TO UNDERSTAND THE HUMAN ELEMENT OF THIS SCHEME BUT WE ASK THAT THE NOISE BARRIER IS NOT CONSIDERED AS AN AFTER THOUGHT BUT NOW AS PART OF THE INITIAL CONSTRUCTION OF THE BARRIERS. IF A BARRIER IS ALREADY GOING UP SURELY IT IS MORE COST EFFECTIVE TO ONLY PUT UP ONE APPROPRIATE BARRIER UP THAT WILL BENEFIT US MORE LONG TERM.

SUMMARY

HIGHWAYS ENGLAND HAS NOT CONSIDERED THE FULL EFFECT OF THEIR SCHEME ON OUR FAMILY. MOVING OUR ENTRANCE FURTHER NORTH TO A SAFER LOCATION AND PROVIDING NOISE BARRIERS INSTEAD OF VISUAL FENCING IS THE MINIMUM THAT WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO US TO MITIGATE AGAINST ALL THE DETRIMENTAL EFFECTS OF THIS PROJECT ON OUR FAMILY. OUR DAILY MENTAL HEALTH DUE TO THE ROAD BEING MOVED WITHIN 20M OF OUR HOMES AND THE INCREASE IN TRAFFIC CANNOT BE TAKEN LIGHTLY.

THESE REQUESTS ARE ENTIRELY REASONABLE, BUT IT SEEMS THEY ARE NOT DECISIONS THAT HIGHWAYS ENGLAND ARE ABLE TO TAKE. WE WOULD ASK YOU TO CONSIDER OUR SITUATION OUTSIDE THEIR TECHNICAL CONSTRAINTS AND AGREE WITH US WHAT WE ARE ASKING FOR IS THE VERY LEAST THAT CAN BE PROVIDED.

REGARDS

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone