



**HETHERSETT PARISH COUNCIL**

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17<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Dear Examiner

**Re: Application by Highways England for an Order Granting Development Consent for the A47/A11 Thickthorn Junction  
Proposed link road from Cantley Lane to a new 'T' junction with the B1172 at a point north of Thickthorn Hall and Thickthorn Farm access roads**

Hethersett Parish Council is concerned about six aspects of this proposal and considers that it is very bad value for the Treasury's investment money:

- The actual need for this link road has never satisfactorily been explained.
- The origins of this new link road at Cantley Lane will clearly require disturbance to otters, badgers, smaller mammals such as water voles and newts. Newts also have rights. We have not seen any proposals to ensure their safeguarding whilst the stream ex Thickthorn Hall pond is being diverted and bridged.
- What traffic modelling has been accomplished? The road, if completed, will produce a new major 'through route' potentially attracting traffic from as far away as Hethel, Bunwell, Tacolneston and Wreningham, travelling via several unsuitable country roads and finally via that through Ketteringham village. There is a further potential attraction to vehicle drivers emanating from Mulbarton and East Carleton again using similarly unsuitable rural roads.
- There is no traffic light, or roundabout proposed to avoid potential accidents at the B1172 'T' junction.
- The actual works in Cantley Lane will require two very expensive bridges, for the railway at height compatible with retrospective electrification and then the A11 itself.
- Little consideration has been given to Station Lane which is already bisected by the A11. It would simply require a bridge to be constructed. This would mean that there would be no need for a new road coming out onto the B1172.

The functionality of a vehicular link to Norwich could be achieved at a much lower cost, by constructing the link road to the north easterly situated bridge over the A47 towards Intwood.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]

Mrs Annette Palmer PSLCC  
Clerk to Hethersett Parish Council