

A417 MISSING LINK – FURTHER REPRESENTATION CONCERNING THE A417  
MISSING LINK

ON BEHALF OF B. J. & C. E. FORD

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2022

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1. Plan – HE551505 – 000451 – Land acquisition area

The Acquisition area (pink) shown on this Plan leaves a thin slither of land to be retained by our clients. We have previously raised a concern about the viability of retaining this and instead, National Highways should acquire the balance, subject to contract. Leaving a tiny segment of land in the ownership of our clients means it is virtually unusable and creates a management liability. Whilst this approach has been verbally accepted by representatives of National Highways, no new plans accepting this amendment have been issued.

2. Plan – HE551505 – 000449 - Compound

Our clients strongly oppose the temporary acquisition of over 18 acres of productive arable land for use as a Contractors Compound for the duration of the scheme. The land will be ruined. No assurances have been provided that the land will be reinstated to its existing condition. An adjacent field utilised for the original A417 road scheme as a Contractors Compound was not reinstated correctly and remains a very poor field.

3. Stopping up of Cowley Wood Lane

A verbal proposal has been provided by National Highways representatives to install a Gate on the altered Cowley Wood Lane. It is proposed to be controlled by a key, presumably provided to directly affected landowners or occupiers, to access retained land. As yet, there is no detail as to how this will operate. In today's climate, there is a real possibility that the gate will be left open, either wilfully or accidentally, which in turn could lead to fly tipping and other issues of security. Who will maintain it? Will sufficient width be provided to allow agricultural vehicles to ingress/egress without limitation? There are a number of issues of concern about this proposal and we await further information from the Applicant.

4. Voluntary Acquisition

We await Heads of Terms for a voluntary acquisition of land. None have yet been put forward, despite our clients notification that they are willing to consider these.

S.A. Milsom  
For & on behalf of Moore Allen & Innocent LLP

5<sup>th</sup> May 2022

