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A12 Chelmsford to A120 Widening Scheme: Junction 24 and the associate affects to the Villages of Messing and Inworth.

1. Closure of Easthorpe Road.:-

The closure of Easthorpe Road, shall encourage vehicle from Easthorpe to use Lodge Road on route to and from potential new junction 24, this shall lead to yet more traffic through Messing Village via the Street and Kelvedon Road to B1023 Junction 24.

Lodge Road is no more than a lane, very narrow with tight bends and deep ditches, despite this, it has a speed limit of 60mph up to boundary of Messing.

Vehicle's that would have normally used Easthorpe Road joining at the junction with the B1022 (Maldon to Colchester Road) near Heckfordbridge (heading towards A12) will now continue along B1022 and turn at junction with Harborough Hall Road (this particular road is in a state of subsidence), and again route via Messing to and from potential Junction 24.



Fig.1



Fig.2

Fig.1 Oil delivery to Jode, Lodge Road, Messing. **Road blocked.**

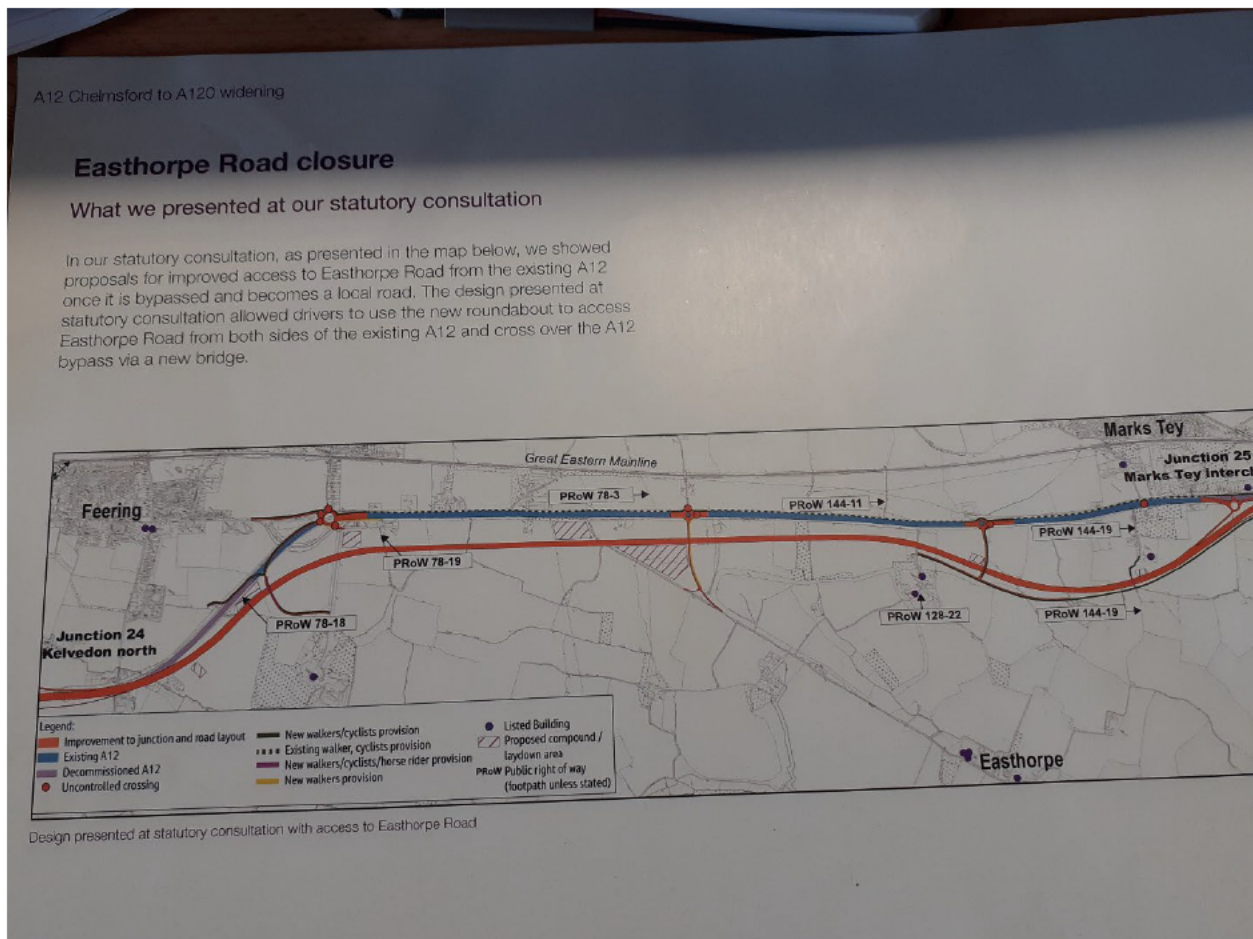
Fig.2 Rubbish Collection next to Jode, Lodge Road Messing. **Road Blocked.**

A number of houses located along Lodge Road and through Messing are adjacent to the road and built in the 1600 - 1800s, they don't have modern foundations and basically seat on the

ground and are subject to vibration from passing vehicles. I would very much appreciate that Lodge Road and particularly [REDACTED] was privileged to a site inspection.

There was no consultation with neighbouring villages regarding the impact of the potential closure of Easthorpe Road, but suddenly appeared in the latest National Highways A12 Chelmsford to A120 widening Supplementary consultation November 2021. **One less junction for National Highway to design and build!**

2. Proposed New A12 Route from Junction 24 to Junction 25 Marks Tey Interchange.



In 2017 4 alternative routes were presented, options A to D, it was also stipulated that if the Colchester Braintree Borders Garden Community Village was not built, then the original proposal for widening the A12 would remain, this was to retain the existing A12 and add additional lanes, I believe that compulsory purchase had already started to acquire land adjacent to the existing A12 to undertake this task.

So why is National Highway now proposing this new road which shall destroy prime agricultural land and wildlife habitat, also have huge environmental impact, and a server additional cost to the tax payer (us) when the country is in such financial difficulties. I find it incredible that this scheme should even be considered when the existing A12 with all its existing infrastructure is basically available.

This land is habitat to many native birds that are on the RSPB red list of endangered species, that's apart from the many animals and amphibians which also call this land their home, ie, Otters, and Hares to name but a few, and many Raptors: Barn Owl, Tawny Owl, Little Owl, Buzzard, Hawks, Merlin and Red Kite. They are all unable to speak and hence don't have a voice regarding this matter.



I have attended all the National Highways presentation regarding Messing, and at each one have asked what is the distance of the potential new A12 route in comparison to the existing A12 (how much closer is the potential road to Messing), the response each time has drawn a blank, apart from verifying the width of a 6 lanes carriageway as 30 metres, my email address has been taken, but with no response.

I am totally discussed by the way National Highway seem to have no regards for our villages (Messing and Inworth) and feel that they can just bulldoze through, destroying our home environment and sacrificing our small villages, they continue to change their predicted traffic flow figures on a regular basis, and with regards to Lodge Road have produced no actual traffic data at all.

3. Main Alternative.

The Messing and Inworth Parish Council have designed what has become known as the Main Alternative, which would save Messing from being used as a "rat run" for vehicles bypassing Tiptree, and would alleviate traffic through Inworth via the B1023. A vast amount of monies has been raised by local residents via the MIAG to fund the design and advise National Highway of deficiencies in their own design of potential junction 24. Residents have had to burden the cost of employing a London Lawyer in an attempt to save our villages from destruction at the hands of National Highway who are not prepared to even recognise how dangerous these small feeder road / lanes are already, let alone, will become once potential Junction 24 is built and vehicles race along these narrow roads / lanes with the intension of saving a few minutes traveling time at the cost and danger of local residents, and in Messing our school children attending our local primary school, without considering all the additional pollutants created by the additional cars and lorries.

I accept and understand in principle that the A12 is in need of improvement, but I feel that there should be compromises achieved to create a lesser impact on our villages and associated farm land, wildlife habitat, which the Main Alternative offers.