

Issue Specific Hearing 5 (04/03) - Post Hearing Submission re Trinity Footbridge - 15/03/21

Having looked at the Applicants responses to the questions posed previously and listened to the representatives at the Issue Specific Hearing 5 on the 4th March, I believe many issues have not been addressed or even responded to at all. I still do not believe they have offered any further justification to the need of the Footbridge, myself, other local residents and the Inspectorate have all requested additional information but very little has been presented. I find it very frustrating that I have to spend all my time 'unpaid' to contest this aspect of the project and all those 'paid' offer very little in return. It feels as though the impact to local residents has very little weighting in their minds and I hope this is noted by the Inspectorate. Could the Applicant please address all the issues I raised previously? If you require that I add this detail into this communication please advise but to avoid repeating myself I refer to the e mail sent on the 22nd November 2020.

In addition I would like to add the following points to those previously made. Below is a picture from what I estimate will be the height of the footbridge from the location of the footbridge. That is my garden, my conservatory where we as a family eat on a daily basis and the two upstairs windows of the bedrooms of my 5 year old daughter and 10 year son.



A point was made in the Issue Specific Hearing 5 that the bridge was running parallel to the properties so the impact would be reduced but there is approx 80 meters of the bridge my property will be clearly visible and the bridge clearly visible to us.



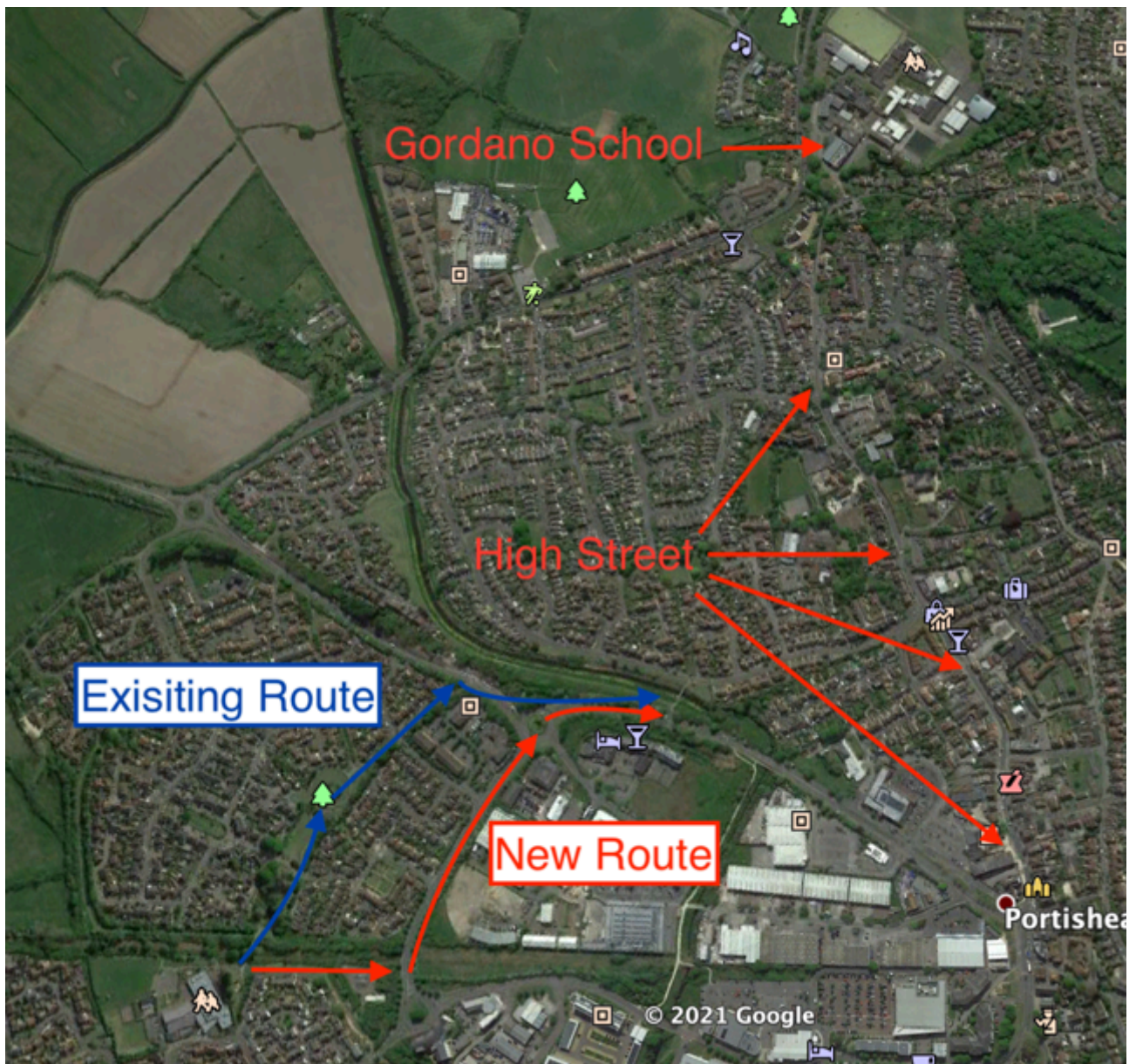
Out of the respect for my neighbours I focused my pictures on my property but the bridge will impact all surrounding properties.



Currently all mature trees, that would still only offer minimal protection, are less than 4 meters from the track, I assume these will all have to be removed to make way for the footbridge and footpath leaving no natural protection in place. I would like to know what is proposed to replace this natural barrier, can the applicant be specific on what is proposed to minimise the visual, sound, light and privacy issues of the bridge on our properties? Can they commit to the number, location, size, species etc? Nothing at all has been suggested that addresses the key issues of the impact on our homes.

Whilst I appreciate the work that Mr Wilmot and his team from the North Somerset Council has done at gathering supporting information, I would like to respond with the following

- The tracks are raised approx 2 meters above the land height of the houses, unless I misunderstood Mr Wilmot to suggested it was the other way round.
- Mr Wilmot suggested that without the footbridge it would take 10 mins to walk round, I do not believe he was basing this on utilising the new foot path proposed adjacent to the track, I would suggest this time would be reduced. Please note the vast majority of people using this path are out for a recreational walk a few more minutes would not be an issue.
- A number of possible impacts were suggested with regards access to the South of the High Street or Gordano School, the below images clearly highlight that the distance if anything would be reduced by routing along the new proposed foot path, not increased.



Why not relocate the bridge a little further from the station so it actually serves a purpose and wouldn't impact any houses? Extend the footpaths along the North side of the tracks and enable direct access to the Nature Reserve, this could serve the purpose of continuing the cycle routes and walking routes referenced by Mr Wilmot and actually improving the routes, surely this should be the aim of any new development.



I would like the above points to be noted by the Inspectorate, I would appreciate a response from the Applicant for each and the many points raised in my e mail dated 22nd November. I would also like to understand what the process is to secure legal representation, at the Applicants cost, to begin to prepare to ensure that we are compensated for

- Impact to the value of our property due to the building of the station.
- Impact to the value of our property due to the reopening of the disused railway line.
- Impact to the value of our property due the the building of the footbridge.
- Compensation during the construction of the station.
- Compensation during the construction of the footbridge.

Everyone on the Applicants side is paid to attend meetings and gather information and offer responses, local residents however have to find the time between work, homeschooling and family to digest information and respond to deadlines with the constant worry that this project will get the go ahead. I struggle to understand why my family and the families of my neighbours have to deal with all this additional anxiety for an unnecessary footbridge, that even the Applicant can't be bothered to justify. Why can't we all save ourselves time and unnecessary stress and withdraw this aspect of the project?

Simon Twist
Local Resident