

A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon Improvement Scheme **Public Meeting , The Methodist Chapel, 8th May 2014**

A public meeting was organised by the Parish Council to discuss the proposals to improve the A14 and the recent A14 Public Consultation.

Printed below is a summary of that meeting and it is presented to all parishioners as a discussion document. For the purposes of this document:

HPC - Is Hilton Parishioner Comment

JR - is Jacobs Response

(Jacobs are the consulting company who have the contract from the HA to assist with The Scheme and two Jacobs representatives were in attendance.)

Please note that The Parish Council will be issuing additional information (on a weekly basis) on this website to assist parishioners with their responses to The Scheme

Jacobs Introduction :

Development Consent Order (DCO) to be submitted by HA by end of 2014

Tight deadline, so some activities are taking place in parallel

Construction planned to start end of 2016

Volume / number of respondents is key to a message being "heard"

Comments so far received by HA are already being worked on, so no need to wait for June 15th deadline.

Government Inspectorate ratifies the DCO but final decision is with the Secretary of State.

It is an on-going design process, after ratification there is a period to comment on the design.

Contractor to be appointed

Jacobs currently meeting with HA on a weekly basis to discuss feedback

Hilton Parishioner Comments / Jacobs Responses

HPC -Why is the proposed road 2m above current ground level?

JR- Design is due to drainage and is as low as possible to meet drainage requirements.

Increased elevation is expensive and the road will not be built higher than necessary

HPC-Exhibition staff advised a road height of 3m – clarification sought

JR- Road believed to be 2m with 1m high bund on sides, north and south. Drawings are available and Jacobs will forward cross-section views of the road layout around Hilton to Parish Council

Action

HPC – (Again) Concern on the height - significantly higher than current A14

JR- Drainage is key to the design; engineers advise that long fall and cross fall (*longitudinal and transverse ed.*) are at minimum values. New topography of the proposed route may account for the increased height. (Again) Cross sectional views required.

HPC- Access from A14 to St Ives. Already severe in the morning, the new route with no exit at B1040 will lead to more vehicles through Hilton. Why is there no access at B1040.

JR- New road is designed to be a "through road"with minimal junctions

HPC- Bunding should be at the height of lorries for increased visual and noise screening

HPC – Press reports advise “the benefit of The Southern Bypass to Huntingdon“but at what cost to others?

HPC-Assurances sought on pollution

JR- Noise and Air pollution monitoring would be undertaken in Hilton prior to construction phase. This is for mitigation purposes

HPC- 24hour monitoring should be undertaken, not just “working hours“

HPC – Exhibition staff were unaware of the guided bus-way and therefore the effects of this on the traffic modelling were unknown. Also what about flood modelling?

JR- Traffic and flood modelling is an on-going process. Details to be supplied to Parish Council when available.

Action

HPC – Flooding is a concern to Hilton

JR- Flood alleviation is an on-going process

HPC- How will the proposed developments along A14 corridor affect the new road

JR- On going discussions including the effects on the new A14

HPC – Environmental affects and impacts? Local elected representatives councillors and MP should speak on our behalf. Not much evidence currently or historically

HPC - Currently Girton interchange is congested (travelling west) causing traffic to join A14 A428 and Hilton

JR- Improvements to the Interchange are part of this design and should encourage traffic to stay on A14

HPC – What will the gradient be for the bridges crossing the new A14. Where will the ramps start ?

JR-Cross Sectional drawing available and will be send to the Parish Council

Action

HPC - Why is the route so far south? It could be further north without affecting people and is now closer than the previous proposal.

JR – Unlikely to move, but no harm in continuing to protest.

HPC- A1198 makes a good bypass for Hilton

JC- This would be a CCC matter

HPC – Effects of noise and visual pollution? This was not available at the exhibition

JR- No detail on noise and traffic models available yet – example of parallel working.

Modelling has started, is on-going and will be sent to the Parish Council when available.

Action

HPC – Concern expressed about increased “rat-running”, including Gravely Way. Traffic modelling needs to be accurate.

HPC – Local MP has been reported to declare that no adverse traffic volumes through villages will result from the new A14. Rat-running to be minimised.

HPC- what will be effects of the construction phase?

JR- The DCO has to include details of the construction phase. The construction will be managed tightly with contractors required to sign up to the “Considerate Contractor’s Scheme”

HPC- Detail of the new road is not complete yet it is being presented for our comment.

JR- On-going design process and working in parallel all to achieve the tight deadlines.

HPC- De-trunking of roads takes ownership from HA to CC with potential additional maintenance costs. This is believed to be HDC desire to remove the Huntingdon viaduct

HPC – Will compensation be available?

JR- There is an established process for determining compensation.

HPC – Currently traffic volumes cause problems for local house owners with vibration and noise. There is a desire to reduce such volumes of traffic particularly HCVs

HPC- What hours will be worked during the construction phase?

JR- Normally, standard weekday hours are worked (not elongated days) and sometimes Saturday mornings. No Sunday working. Night time working may be required for some operations, for example those requiring road closures. Notice would be given for such

HPC – Is there a financial cap on the project?

JR- Not aware of such

HPC- Would low noise tarmac covering be used? This is currently on existing A14

JR- Yes, the new road covering would be specified as low-noise.

HPC- It is believed that parishioners can raise concerns with the Inspectorate before the DCO submission.

JR- Unsure of this.

The PC Chairman thanked all for their attendance and stressed that a large volume of response would be required for the best outcome for Hilton. The PC will continue to keep the parish informed.

Meeting closed at 9.05pm

*27 May 2014 -As an a subsequent note, items above marked “**Action**” were against Jacobs to supply additional information to the Parish Council. At the time of website posting this information has not been received and the PC will chase for those responses .*