

Closing Statement:

OBJ/02/02
OBJ/08/02
OBJ/21/02
OBJ/23/02
OBJ/30/02
OBJ/32/02
OBJ/35/02
OBJ/36/02
OBJ/37/02
OBJ/38/02

GENERAL Summary

Introduction.

I submit that our clients are reasonable practical people who recognise the need for the scheme generally. They understand that the authority has to mitigate impact on nearby residential settlements.

but - we say there also needs to be a balance between all relevant interests, including existing businesses and land occupiers.

It is appreciated that the authority has to look for cost efficiencies:

but - we say that most of our clients proposals mitigate compensation and low construction costs.

Consultation with existing land interests has been too little, too late. Suggestion that contributions to local forums since the design has been captivated represent proper consultation fail to convince. Discussion about a design that is unworkable is not consultation.

If I am wrong in terms of a consultation, then I remain the result of failing to consult the right ^{other} ~~other~~ (but our proposals to modify the scheme ~~as~~ in ~~interventions~~ have been rejected.

people at present time is that some elements of the scheme have not been properly thought through.

The proposal for the authority to employ specialist land drainage consultants and contractors is made firstly on the basis of expence, and secondly with a view to saving the authority as much as the claimants cost and time. Its repetition by the authority is symptomatic of ~~the~~^{an apparent} an attitude that doesn't want to engage.

Comments

It is accepted that it is not the purpose of the Scheme to facilitate development. However the trustees have a duty to follow up the development potential already identified and we submit that the authority has made only ~~as~~ ~~minor~~ minimal changes to design to restrict land take. It has made changes elsewhere so the approach is not consistent. The situation cannot be remedied by compensation.

The bridge design (sort of the A6) is overly cumbersome and does not provide access to the trustees woodland.

I submit

not more need for full extent of closures.

Skew etc - if it is the case that the objectors have been consulted, then the points made by objectors' have been rejected.

Jan shirt

7

The authority has not worked with the landlord to reduce land take.

In terms of land management.

It is of course up to the landlord, not the authority, to determine whether and when to terminate the Hqt. There is therefore a comparable interest.

A permanent occupation as suggested in the Belitta rebuttal (pg) is not a realistic proposition and the landlord will be able to deal with possession for any development as and when it arises.

The authority accepts that the impartial this Hqay is advise. If has not however been able to address that situation with any practical measures.

Hazel Mart and family

The family has not found a practical alternative bridge location which the authority agrees is neutral in terms of construction cost, and which will reduce compensation costs.

Despite initial indication from the Project Director that the bridge location was not cast in stone, this has proved to be the case despite our detailed case for the alternative location.

^{Without consultation}
Consultation was never undertaken at the most critical point in the design process - ie prior to initial design.

If there has been full consultation, when we do not accept ^{or change our views} the ^{having approached} ~~the~~ ^{initial} bullettin 21/206 of the ^{bullettin} ~~bullettin~~ project is incorrect in that there is no access from Mill Hill Farm that provides a direct access to the proposed bridge. A site inspection would reveal that. The access from Mill Hill Farm ^{from} ~~now~~ over a significant length of highway with bends and poor lines of sight, and is accordingly unsafe.

This Scheme is fully supported by David Hall, ^{who runs} one of the major family enterprises affected by the Scheme

Lawson

The authority accept that the equine holding is currently intensively used, and accordingly support our contention that even a modest amount of land take will have a significant effect.

FREEDMAN

As it currently stands the authority cannot demonstrate that our client will be able to access their driveway following erection of the cycle safety fence. They will have to park their cars where the cycle traffic is intended.

The plans / drawings produced by the authority don't answer the problem and confirm that the proposed access route is blocked by existing landscaping.

These proposals seem to have been designed somewhat late in the day.

As our Freedman will wish to erect a fence against the cycle fence to preserve privacy which will negate part of the purpose of the cycle fence.

We have put forward a practical and cost effective option which is to use an existing gateway to the proposed fence, just to the east of the proposed access point.

We didn't cover this point earlier.

Also the land take note CPO includes a section of land to the west of the shared footway/cycleway which further compromises manoeuvrability. It is not clear why that land is being taken in addition to the route of the cycle way/footpath.

JONES / ROLAND (FIRMING)

The authority appear not have considered the implications of introducing new equestrian cycle and pedestrian traffic on to the existing track (which was provided to mitigate severance caused by the construction of the A555) until we raised objections.

We submit that the response has been to try and fit ^{together} two competing types of user at minimal cost and by ignoring best practice for the proposed new users. It only seems to have considered guidance as to preferred and minimum widths as a result of our representations.

The widths available from the existing track, as shown on the authority's drawing showing cross sections of the track are not agreed.

- examples -

Can provide copy of authority's drawing with measurements from our drawings.

Summary
Drafted
by [redacted]
if [redacted]

We have put forward a revised alternative proposal which would allow safe segregation of what would otherwise be competing users. Motions for machinery never increase in size and the potential conflict can only increase. The proposed track could be constructed by the claimants with the agreed costs (much cheaper than the authority's estimated costs)

The rebuttal proof refers to a truth coming
"detailed design stage" which supports our view that
the proposed shared use of the access track has not been thought ^{through}
fully enough through consultation. This option will
save the authority consumption costs.

An alternative option may be to widen the
proposed widening of the track area towards
the existing A555 but we submit that a
minimum of 3metres is required in this respect.

As Charles Jones has put it:

"We have tried to help the authority
make it work, but they have ignored us".

A problem also remains with the access into
Mrs Bowlands land as the drawings provided
seem to indicate the removal of the existing
access arrangement.

C. SUTTON.

As with Messrs Jones Fielding and Rawland, the attempt to force new cycle and pedestrian traffic onto a parity roadbed as a accommodation work for the construction of the A34 / A555 is fraught with difficulties.

Whilst it is accepted that the current proposal does not include a sidewalk, a sidewalk formed part of the original proposals and the authority have made it clear that a sidewalk is very much on their agenda.

Photos

and
measurements
submitted
yesterday

However there remain insufficient width, particularly on the bridge, the most sensitive section of the track, for farm vehicles and machinery to pass bicycles.

Farmers currently using the track are 10 feet (305m) wide but with increase in size over the years. Currently tractors are up to 3.36 metres wide and large harvesters up to 5.05 metres. Most implements drawing trailers are no less wide.

Details have been submitted that question both the authority's measurements of the track and its ability to serve both farm machinery and cyclists. Passing places

will not work as some cyclists will not want or even retrace their steps.

The guidance available prescribes a minimum width for cycle routes of 2-3m and a preferred width of 2.6 to 5m. These dimensions are not available from current track dimensions.

The position of existing and diverted footpaths remains a serious concern as does the quality of footpath furniture. Rising gates installed at the time of the construction of the A34/A555 are not working and allow escapes of sheep, occasionally onto the dual carriageway.

The further diversion of FP 81 as proposed would help to mitigate the impact of the scheme generally on this land holding.

Concern about many paths ^{CLOSE} to highways with high speeds are rather lacking in credibility given the fact that there are existing footpaths close ~~to~~ to, and crossing the roundabout, on A34 and A555 and the introduction of cycle routes along the side of the carriageway in this scheme.

This Sherton is uniquely qualified to comment on problem associated with road schemes, as the existing drainage of land adjacent to A555 is ~~not~~ dysfunctional due to the highway authority's inability to maintain drains and ditches that are outside the private land boundary. This issue has caused significant production losses for over the 17 years or so since the construction of the existing roads.

^{problem}
This ~~scheme~~ will also work against any ground drainage works required for the new scheme. If the highway authority do not maintain highway drains - none of it will work.

Mr Sherton's comment about the drainage legacy from the original A34/A555 junction touches on all the relevant issues that affect him and other claimants.

"it won't work and it will be us that gets the grief afterwards".

Rehu Halls in Jones et al
Finston

imply that as traffic either
doesn't exist or will have to
fit ^{shared} with the standards for
either ~~bikeways~~ ^{bikeways} / cycleways / pedestrian

Design manual for roads changes.

Cycleways. min 2.0 m
prefed 3.0.

Pedestrian min 2.0
prefed 2.6.

Shared min 2.00
unsegregated prefed 3.00.

Surfaced widths. acceptable 3m
prefed 3m.

County side Agency.

Unsegregated. absolute 2.00
Cycleway width. min 3.00.
pedestrian 5.00.

Machinery traffic upto. 3.36.

Wage workers upto. 5.00.
Cyclists upto. 3.9.

Know good practice

Patios - Instapak min 1m
max 18.

fedge. min 15.
max 18.

Current proposals NOT best practice

Final summary.

Most of our client objections are underpinned by practical and cost effective proposals designed mainly to rectify obvious adverse ~~any~~ impacts the scheme. ~~offences have been made~~

The authority in response displays a form of design dependency - once a design has been captured they can't give it up.

Reference is made in the rebuttal proofs about the Vulnerable Road Users group.

Sir, I find myself a representative of the Vulnerable road users group and respectfully ask you to examine our objections in the light of the submissions made and in the context of achieving a fair balance between all interests.