

Waterbeach Parish Council

Clerk: Shelley Mason

Tel: 01223 441338

E-mail: council@waterbeach.org.uk

**The Old Pavilion
Recreation Ground
Cambridge Road
Waterbeach
Cambridge
CB25 9NJ**

Mike Huntington- by email
South Cambs District Council

24 May 2018

Dear Mike

Application S/0791/18/FL – Relocated Railway Station for Waterbeach

Thank you for allowing us to respond after the purdah period and election of the new Council.

Waterbeach Parish Council has now met to consider its response and wishes to register that it **OBJECTS** to this proposal. We have consulted residents on the proposal and the points made in our holding reply still stand. They are reiterated here for ease:

1. The Council considers that the application is premature having regard to the uncertain planning position of the local plan, SPD and application for the new settlement.
2. The Council considers that on its own, and without planned context of the proposed new settlement, the relocation of the station is not necessary.
3. The Council is extremely concerned at the proposed access arrangements, especially the use of Cody Road for private car access, to be wholly unsuitable and inadequate.
4. The Council is extremely concerned at the proposed access arrangements for construction traffic via Bannold Drove which is deemed unsuitable.
5. The Council questions the need to build a new station at this point given that it will only accommodate an 8-carriage train, which is the same as the proposed upgrade to the current railway station.
6. With the proposed new settlement, and the use of the current use of the railway station, is there a requirement to consider operating both the relocated station and the current station.
7. The Council considers that the position of the lift at the end of the platform could cause problems for disabled users in the event of an evacuation.
8. The Council opposes the loss of a rural bridleway due to the location of the station.

We also wish to make the following points which either elaborate or add to the concerns already raised:

9. The site proposed for the relocated station is outside the scope of SS5, on an unallocated site and not considered as part of the Local Plan and Supplementary Planning Documents. There is therefore no driver for the proposal.

10. The application is designed to attract funding and engagement from Network Rail. pre-supposes that the RLW proposals for housing development will be approved. This is premature. It also assume that S106 monies from the RLW development will fund various mitigation measures as outlined in the HoS document. If the station is approved but the development is not, then how will these measures be funded?

11. The proposal will bring additional traffic through routes the village. These include - but are not limited to - Way Lane. The proposal to implement traffic calming measures only in Way Lane is therefore insufficient (and also does not take into account the potential displacement effect if the focus is on Way Lane alone).

12. The Council also refers to the planning permissions granted under S/0032/06/F for the change of use of land to create a multi-sport park, construction of lakes with water storage, canal, new and changed roads, cycling and BMX tracks etc between Milton and Waterbeach. The transport assessment from original application stated “It is therefore very important that excellent provision is made for cyclists and pedestrians between Waterbeach railway station and the development.... and the station is within easy walking and cycling distance from the proposed main sports centre.¹”. This proposed relocation further north is not within easy walking distance.

Notwithstanding WPC’s fundamental objection to the proposal, if it should be approved we request that SCDC as the planning authority impose suitable conditions to address these concerns – and to consult with the Parish Council on what these are.

As part of our consultation with residents we invited responses to a questionnaire. I have attached some initial summary data from this – we will continue to collect feedback as it provides us with useful data on residents’ opinions.



Shelley Mason

¹ Transport Assessment Para 7.13 from planning application
<http://plan.scambs.gov.uk/swiftlg/apas/run/WPHAPPDETAIL.DisplayUrl?theApnID=S/0032/06/F&theTabNo=3>