

South Cambridgeshire Investment Partnership

By email to:

clovett@conciliocomms.com

03/08/2022

Dear Charlie

Response to consultation on plans for Land North of Lower Cambourne

Cambridge Past, Present & Future is Cambridge's largest civic society. We are a charity run by local people who are passionate about where they live. We operate in the greater Cambridge area and working with our members, supporters and volunteers we:

- Are dedicated to protecting and enhancing the green setting of Cambridge for people and nature.
- Care about Cambridge and are an independent voice for quality of life in the strategic planning of Greater Cambridge.
- Are working to protect, celebrate and improve the important built heritage of the Cambridge area.
- Own and care for green spaces and historic buildings in and around the city for people and nature, including Wandlebury Country Park, Coton Countryside Reserve, Cambridge Leper Chapel & Barnwell Meadows, Bourn Windmill and Hinxton Watermill.

Cambridge PPF responded to your previous consultation in August 2021, where we expressed concern about the master-planning of the parks. We considered that the location of the parks bounded by the main roads reduced the value of these spaces for both people and nature.

We are therefore pleased to see a single much larger park. However, it still has main through routes along two sides and is not connected to other community features within the development, such as the landscaping belt to the south, the market square or the tree lined corridor to the north. It is appreciated that a central open space will be in easy walking distance for all residents, but this has to be weighed up against the quality of the amenity that they are going to use (ie whether they would prefer to walk a little longer to use a larger and more attractive amenity). We feel that you are not maximising the opportunity to connect the open space with other amenities. We would recommend that the large park is provided adjacent to the landscaping belt to the south, this will create a much larger and more pleasant green asset for the community to enjoy as well as having greater benefit for biodiversity (connected areas of habitat are better than isolated areas).

We support the strategy to deliver 20% biodiversity net gain. This net gain should ideally be delivered on-site but if this is not possible it should cascade out, first within Cambourne and then in the wider area.

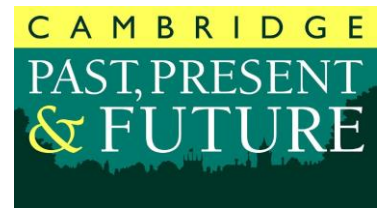
We support the commitment to deliver high quality design and suggest that this should be delivered through a design code developed in conjunction with local residents.

I trust that you will take our comments into consideration.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Nicholas

Principal Planning Officer



Cambridge Past, Present & Future
Wandlebury Country Park
Cambridge CB22 3AE

Phone 01223 - 243830

www.cambridgeppf.org