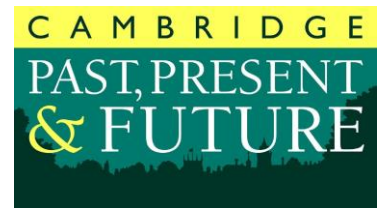


Greater Cambridge Partnership

By email to:

consultations@greatercambridge.org.uk



Cambridge Past, Present & Future
Wandlebury Country Park
Cambridge CB22 3AE
Phone 01223 - 243830
www.cambridgeppf.org

07/12/2022

Dear GCP

Response to GCP Sawston Greenway

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 Past, Present and Future support the principle of greenways but wish to ensure that they avoid unnecessary harm and are implemented with the minimum impact on ecology, heritage and landscape.

All sections:

Sections of the route pass through countryside or historic villages. It is important that the visual quality of these is not harmed by the greenway by introducing urban features such as inappropriate coloured surfacing or excessive signage. The type and design of surfacing must be carefully chosen and appropriate to the setting. Black tarmac adjacent to the main road may be acceptable, but in open countryside, is not appropriate. A lighter colour surface blends into the landscape much better. We have previously drawn your attention to a good local example of a sealed cycle path created by the National Trust at White Fen, and we would encourage you to use that or similar.

The Greenways schemes as a whole, need to provide a biodiversity net gain of at least 20% to meet the aspirations of the local councils.

Section 2 Robinson Way

We welcome routing the greenway to the west of the trees. Careful consideration will need to be given as to where the route re-joins Robinson Way at the roundabout to minimise tree loss.

Section 3 Genome Path

Cambridge PPF object to the CSET busway scheme which is still subject to County Council approval and consideration at a Public Inquiry. The Sawston Greenway needs to identify the route should CSET not proceed.

Section 6 Dernford Reservoir

This section will introduce a sealed path in the open countryside. Careful consideration needs to be given to the alignment of the path between the railway line and the A1301, minimising impact on the meadow. The design needs to take into account the countryside location with suitable coloured surface and minimal lighting. In relation to the latter, the route along the A1301 provides a better lit alternative for those not wishing to use the path during the night/winter.

I trust that you will take our comments into consideration.

Yours sincerely
Sarah Nicholas
Principal Planning Officer