

Greater Cambridge Partnership

By email to:

consultations@greatercambridge.org.uk

18/07/2023

Dear GCP

Response to Consultation on Cycling Plus: Hills Road

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 are supportive of improvements which make cycling and walking along Hills Road safer and more attractive.

Our area of interest relates to the impact of the improvements on the built heritage along Hills Road. Hills Road, between Brooklands Avenue and Lensfield Road lies within the Conservation Area. There are a few listed buildings along Hills Road, mainly on the west side between Lensfield Road and Coronation Street. The war memorial and milestone, at the Station Road junction, are listed as are the Royal Albert Alms houses.

Highway works must be aware of these heritage assets and ideally be visually enhancing and not involve any works which impacts the significance of the asset. Guidance should be taken from Historic England's Streets for All. With this in mind we make the following comments: -

- Too many traffic signs and notices can spoil the visual attractiveness of a place and too much information can be confusing to drivers and cyclists. We suggest that an audit is taken of the street signage – existing and proposed – and it is rationalised, combining signs on one pole and removing redundant signs to avoid unnecessary street clutter.
- Similarly, we suggest that an audit of street furniture is taken, identifying and removing superfluous or redundant items and coordinating style, colour and siting of street furniture.
- That the number of traffic signals, signs and physical barriers are minimised through sensible management of pedestrian, cycle and vehicle interaction.
- Any trees within the highway or on the highway edge must be protected and preserved.

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