

S. A Crack and Son Baldwins Farm Green Lane Rougham Bury St. Edmunds IP30 9JR

Network Rail James Forbes House 27 Great Suffolk St London SE1 0NS

24 May 2018

Dear Mr and Mrs Crack

The Network Rail (Suffolk Level Crossing Reduction) Order Level crossing S27 Barrells

Persona Associates has passed to us your email of objection to the proposed Order dated 21 May 2018.

We note your concerns and, in the following paragraphs, we respond to the points you raise.

You say in your objection that you "do not want any interference with [our] rabbit proof fencing, which would undermine its function". As you are aware, the proposed unsurfaced footpath will run parallel and adjacent to the railway and will be approximately 2 meters wide (with an additional 0.5m offset from the NR boundary fence). Network Rail acknowledges your existing rabbit proof fence running along your field to the south and east of your field. For any areas where the existing private fence falls within the land required for the proposed permanent footpath, Network Rail will re-erect your private fence in a position that accommodates the footpath. We would seek to work with you beforehand to discuss the requirements for the relocation of this fence.

You propose a new alignment to the footpath in your objection, noting "a footpath is safer around the boundary of a field rather than across it". Unfortunately, Network Rail finds itself unable to support this modification as, having received your objection at such a late stage in the inquiry proceedings, we are unable to consult with all affected parties to your proposed amendment to the Order. In particular, the Ramblers, who objected to the closure of S27 Barrells, closed their case at the Public Inquiry on the 4 May and as a result we are unfortunately not in a position to consult with them further on the modifications you have suggested, as required under Transport and Works Act guidance on making any changes to the Order.

Your objection has, however, been seen by the Inspector, and Network Rail would

be content for the Inspector to propose a modification to reflect your proposal if he considers it appropriate to do so.

We hope that our response has provided sufficient clarity on the points you have made in you objection and have addressed your concerns. If you require any further information or wish to discuss the points you have raised, please don't hesitate to contact me directly or email AngliaLevelCrossings@networkrail.co.uk.

Yours sincerely

Elizabeth Noonan

Anglia Level Crossing Reduction Team

Network Rail