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THE WHITTLESEY CHARITY

Registration No. 1005069

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Telephone 01832 273085

The Secretary of State for Transport
C/o Transport and Works Act Orders Unit
General Counsel's Office
Department of Transport
Zone 1/18, Great Minster House
33 Horseferry Road
LONDON SW1P 4DR

5th April 2017

Dear Secretary of State

Network Rail Cambridgeshire Level Crossing Reduction Order

The Trustees of The Whittlesey Charity (Reg No. 1005069) own the land known as Lattersey Field Farm shown on Plan Sheet 1, **C15 Brickyard Drove Level Crossing**. (Copy enclosed)

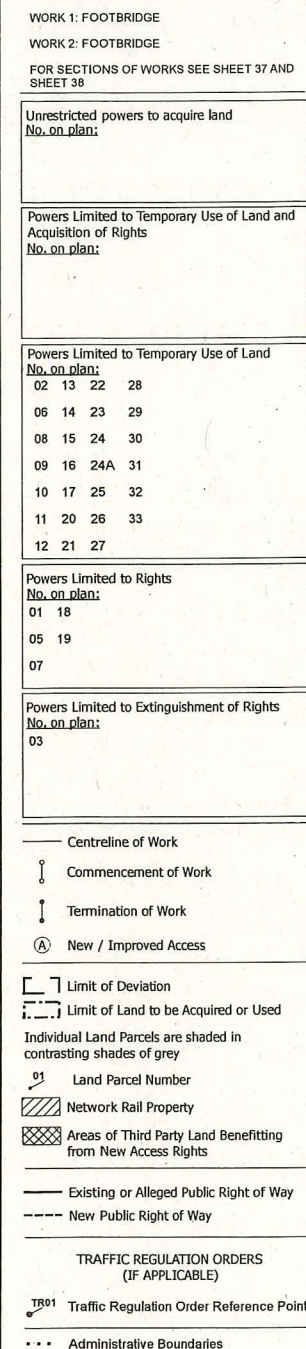
Because the closure of the level crossing C15 would cut off access to an existing public footpath (Footpath 48 Whittlesey), Network Rail have proposed the creation of a new footpath **diagonally** across our land from point P001 on the plan to a proposed wooden footbridge (at 09,10,11,12,13,&14).

We oppose the creation of any new footpath south of the railway as we sincerely believe that it would never be used. North of the railway, where the village is, there are ample good footpaths, popular with a few walkers, cyclists and horse riders, who have no reason to cross the line and rarely, if ever, do. My cousin Mr T J Smith who has lived at Jamwell Farm, very near to the crossing, for eighteen years, has never seen any members of the public south of the railway line. (See copy of his email to me 30 January 2017. Copy enclosed).

We do feel disappointed that having co-operated with Network Rail all along, after we objected to the original proposed new path they then changed to the current route, which is obviously most unreasonable and worse than the original. We objected of course, but they gave us no opportunity to discuss it. We were told by Bruton Knowles (The Agents) that our objections had been passed to Network Rail, but the

PLAN SHEET 1

Sheet 1
C15 - Brickyard Drove
Level Crossing



ORIGINAL ROUTE
OF NEW FOOTPATH
PROVIDED BY NETWORK
RAIL.

NOTE: The area enclosed by any limit of deviation or limit of land to be acquired or used is the area extending to the outer edge of the line marking those limits.

PLAN

HORIZONTAL SCALE FOR PLAN 1:1250

~~Anna Canterbury~~

THE WHITTLESEY CHARITY
 NETWORK RAIL CAMERDRAVE LEVEL
 CROSSING REDUCTION ORDER

C15 BRICKYARD DROVE LX

From: "T J SMITH"
 To: "Phil Gray"
 Sent: 30 January 2017 21:31
 Subject: RE: Closure of Brickyard Drove Level Crossing
 Hello Phil,

So sorry not to have replied earlier. I am in receipt of all the plans to create the new footpaths

I agree with you that the new footpath is unnecessary. During the 18 years I've been here I can honestly say I have never seen people using it. The only public use I do see is on the cycle route, used by pedestrians and horse riders, but no one uses the crossing to get to Brickyard Drove. I understand that Robert Brown (who owns the field the footpath will be built on) is of the same opinion, his Email is

1. I'm out quite a

bit evenings so either leave a message or try my mobile. Nice to hear from you, hope you're keeping well.

Best regards,

Tim.

From: Phil Gray [mailto:
 Sent: 19 January 2017 21:38
 To: TIM SMITH
 Subject: Closure of Brickyard Drove Level Crossing

Hello Tim,

It's Phil, hoping you are still using this email address.

I am writing as Clerk to The Whittlesey Charity.

We bought from, This land borders the back of your property, which I understand is known as
 As you must know, Network Rail want to close the unmanned level crossing known as Brickyard Drove. There is a Right of Way from Benwick Road, up the road through our farm and then right, along the grass drove that comes towards your house. There it meets the level crossing. For that reason Network Rail are proposing a new Right of Way, which leaves the grass drove and turns onto your property, then over the dyke onto our land.

The grass drove is high in vegetation and brambles - nobody has been down there for years by the look of it, so we do not think a new alternative footpath is necessary. We do not want a thirty-foot wide path on our land, and James Fountain, our One paper says it is proposed that it will follow the Jamwell Farm boundary. Do you know anything about this? Have they asked you?

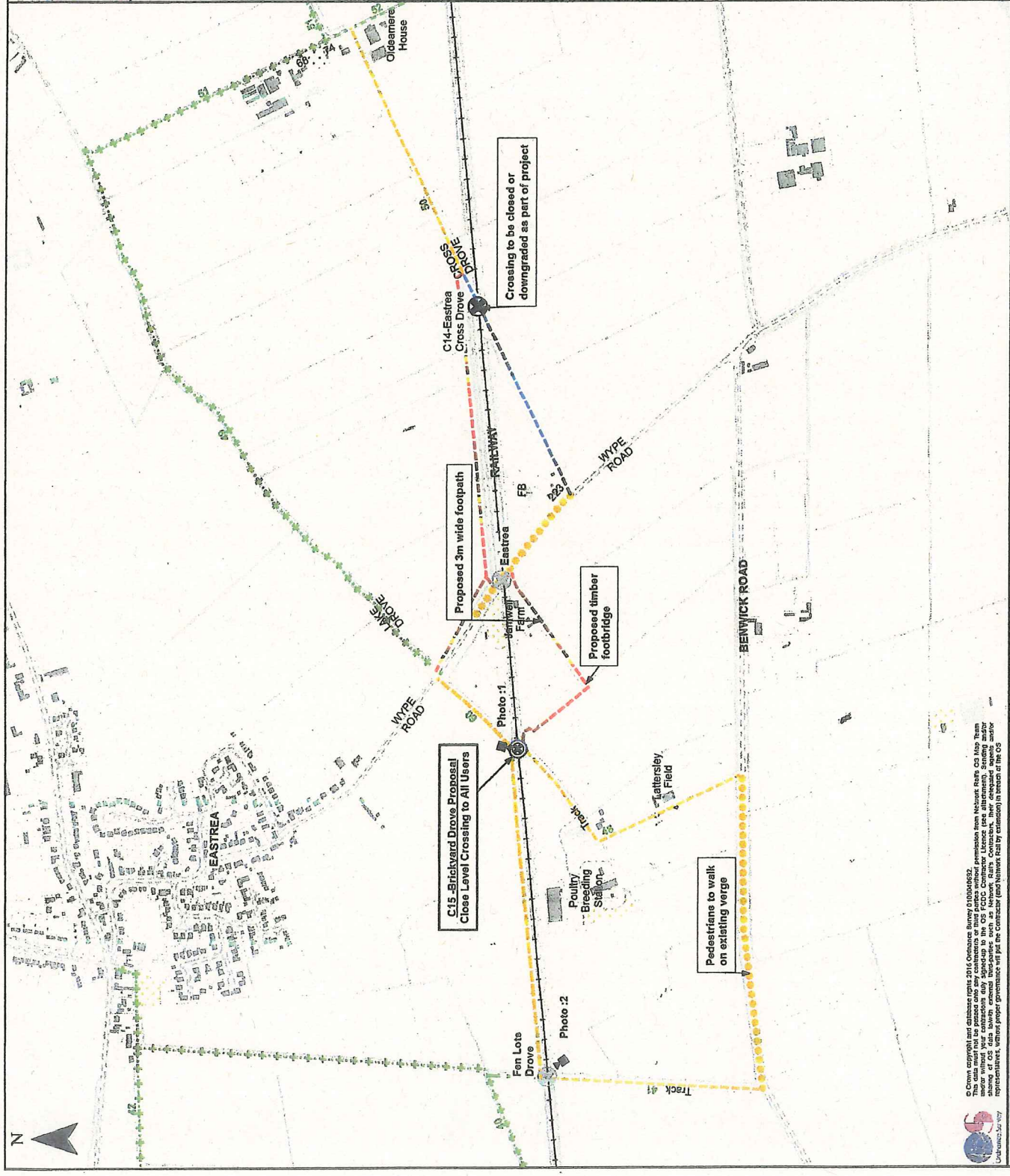
3 metre

If you let me have your phone number I'd like to speak to you about it. My number is

All the best and a Happy New Year to you.

Phil

31/01/2017



Level Crossings  Level crossing being discussed  Other level crossing in the project  Other level crossing not in the project	Right of Way / Other Route Type  Footpath  Bridleway  Restricted byway  Byway open to all traffic  Highway (shown where used as part of a diversion)  Private Road / Track (shown where used as part of a diversion route) The line styles above indicate the type of right of way or other route proposed. The colours below indicate the nature of the proposal.	Right of Way / Other Route Status  No Change and not part of diversion route  Use of Existing right of way for diversion route  Change of Status to right of way  Closure of existing right of way  Creation of new right of way	Photographs  Photograph Location (with no. - see Summary Sheet for details)
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NetworkRail Anglia Level Crossing
Reduction Strategy

Round 2 Public Consultation Proposal

C15 - Brickyard Drive Cambridgeshire Whittlesey CP									
P1	16/09/2016	For Information		WC	DW	SJT	JAS		
Rev	Date	Description		Dwn	E Chkt	Chkt'd	App'd		
1:6,500		Drawing No.		MMD-3675/16-C15-GEN-003					

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representatives, without proper governance will put the Contractor (and Network Rail by extension) in breach of the OS

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Anglia Level Crossing Proposals
C15 – Brickyard Drive (Whittlesey Parish)
Public Right of Way Reference – Footpath 48 Whittlesey



Weekday (Monday)	0 pedestrians daily
Weekend (average)	3 pedestrians daily

Network Rail has been working hard to better manage its level crossings and the risks they pose. It has developed proposals for the possible closure or change to public rights of way at around 130 level crossings in Anglia. Closing or modifying level crossings can help to bring about a number of benefits:

- Improve the safety of level crossing users
- Deliver a more efficient and reliable railway, which is vital in supporting the regional and UK economy
- Reduce the ongoing operating and maintenance cost of the railway
- Reduce delays to trains, pedestrians and other highway users
- Improve journey time reliability for railway, highway and other rights of way users

The level crossings in this initial phase of the Anglia Level Crossing Reduction Strategy do not include any new bridges or underpasses, and offer benefits which are currently affordable and deliverable.

Brickyard Drive is one of the level crossings in the County of Cambridgeshire. It is located in Whittlesey Parish and has the postcode PE7 2AZ. This is a stop, look and listen public footpath level crossing where the user has to decide whether it is safe to cross. The railway at this crossing carries passenger and freight with a line speed of 75 mph. There are generally 176 trains passing through this level crossing per day.

Network Rail's level crossing risk assessments are supported by use of the All Level Crossing Risk Model (ALCRM). This produces a score for the 'individual risk' presented as a letter ranging from A to M, where A is the highest risk and M is the lowest. In addition, the 'collective risk' is based on the number of people who use the crossing and is presented as a number ranging from 1 to 13, where 1 is the highest risk and 13 is the lowest. Brickyard Drive level crossing currently has an ALCRM score of C10, which is considered high risk. Key issues relate to deliberate misuse or user error, frequent trains and sun glare. There were no incidents of misuse, no near misses and no accidents at this crossing between 2011 and 2015.

Public consultation was undertaken in June on initial options for changes. At this level crossing, four questionnaire responses were received. For Brickyard Drive, a summary of the questionnaire responses is shown below (route colours refer to the June 2016 Stage 1 consultation plan – please see the project website for details):

- 50 % agreed with the proposals
- 50 % of responses disagreed with the proposals
- 50 % of responses agreed with the red route
- 25 % of responses preferred an other route
- 25 % of responses did not state a preference.

As part of the consultation process a wide range of statutory consultees, landowners and user groups were also consulted. The responses received have been taken into account when determining the preferred option.

During June and July of this year, Network Rail undertook new census surveys of the number and type of level crossing users. A three day census was undertaken (Saturday, Sunday and Monday) and the daily usage was as follows (*during this census dismounted cyclists have been classed as pedestrians*):



Photo 1: Existing level crossing – Brickyard Drive



Photo 2: Alternative level crossing – Fen Lots Drive

- Diversion lengths:
- Users walking from Benwick Road to Wype Road, using Fen Lots Drive level crossing would experience a 70m shorter route than using Brickyard Drive level crossing.
 - Users walking from Benwick Road to Wype Road via Eastrea level crossing and the proposed new footpath the diversion would have the length of the route increased by 370m.

This summary sheet and a questionnaire are available at the public exhibitions and on the project website at: www.networkrail.co.uk/anglialevelcrossings. Please complete the separate questionnaire using the level crossing identification number C15 and your feedback will be considered before the proposals are finalised ahead of submitting a Transport and Works Act Order to the Secretary of State.

To contact our team, please email us at: anglialevelcrossings@networkrail.co.uk or phone the helpline: 03457 11 41 41. We thank you for your time and providing your comments on the Anglia Level Crossing Proposals.