From:

Cyril Liddy

Sent:

29 April 2017 13:04

To:

TRANSPORTANDWORKSACT

Subject:

re: E41 Paget Road Wivenhoe and E42 Sand Pit Alresford pedestrian crossings.

Secretary of State for Transport, c/o Transport and Works Act Orders Unit, Department for Transport, Zone1/18, Great Minster House, 33 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 4DR

Dear Sir/Madam,

re: E41 Paget Road Wivenhoe and E42 Sand Pit Alresford pedestrian crossings.

I object to Network Rail's (NR) proposed closure of these two crossings. I use the crossings and value them as community facilities.

The core of my objection is based on the principle of connectivity. This underpins the cohesion of the community where I live. I value that sense of community, as do my friends and neighbours.

Wivenhoe is transected by the Colchester to Clacton railway line. The lower part of the town may only be accessed at five points across that railway line. There are the antiquated Victorian road bridges at the High Street and Anglesea Road, an iron footbridge at the railway station and a cattle duct some distance along the Wivenhoe Trail and outside the urban envelope, and there is the Paget Road crossing. None are really adequate for the demands of today's population and to lose the Paget Road crossing would place a further burden on the remaining crossing points.

I also object to the proposed closure of the Sand Pit on the grounds that the alternative proposed by NR requires pedestrians to walk along the Wivenhoe/Alresford Road bridge, which carries fast traffic and has no footpath.

In other words there are no viable alternatives should either of these crossings be closed.

I believe that the policy driven arguments employed by NR to justify the proposed closure are a one size fits all solution to a place that has its own unique characteristics. These proposals should be judged on the facts and its own merits, and not on vague policies. The benefit to NR is de minimis when compared to the inconvenience inflicted on my and my neighbours, as well as the potential erosion of community cohesion by its loss.

I await your acknowledgement.

Yours faithfully,



Cllr Cyril Liddy, Ward councillor for Wivenhoe.

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