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Summary Proof of Evidence – Cultural Heritage (Ms Jennifer Wylie)

(Inquiries Procedure (England & Wales) Rules 2004)

January 2022

The Network Rail (Cambridge South Infrastructure Enhancements) Order



Proof of Evidence

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Cambridge South Infrastructure Enhancements

Cultural Heritage Proof of Evidence Summary

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

CAU	Cambridge Archaeological Unit
CCiC	Cambridge City Council
CCoC	Cambridge County Council
CoCP	Code of Construction Practice
CPPF	Cambridge Past, Present and Future
CSIE	Cambridge South Infrastructure Enhancements
DBA	Desk-based Assessment
DPD	Development Plan Document
ES	Environmental Statement
HE	Historic England
HET	Historic Environment Team
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
SCDC	South Cambridgeshire District Council
TRA	Trumpington Residents Association
TWAO	Transport and Works Act Order
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation

1 Evidence Summary

- 1.1.1 In my evidence I deal with all matters relating to cultural heritage for the CSIE Project including the Scheduled Monument; 'site revealed by aerial photography W of White Hill Farm, Great Shelford'.
- 1.1.2 In section 3 of my evidence I outline the relevant legislation, national and local planning policy and guidance that apply to the CSIE Project so far as they relate to cultural heritage. In summary the relevant legislation includes the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 (**B45**) and the Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 (**B44**). Section 16 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (**D1**), specifically paragraphs 194 to 205 (excluding paragraph 198) are applicable as are the relevant policies of the Cambridge (City Council) Local Plan (**D6**); the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan (**D8**); Cambridge Southern Fringe Area Action Plan (**D11**) (which forms part of the statutory development plan for South Cambridgeshire) and the Emerging Greater Cambridge Local Plan (**D98**).
- 1.1.3 In section 4 of my evidence I outline the cultural heritage assessments and investigations undertaken to date as part of the CSIE Project and detail the consultation carried out with relevant stakeholders.
- 1.1.4 A comprehensive suite of cultural heritage assessments and surveys have been carried out as part of the TWAO application for the CSIE Project. These include a cultural heritage desk-based assessment (**NR16 Vol 3, Appendix 11.2**), a geophysical survey (**NR16 Vol 3, Appendix 11.3**) and an archaeological evaluation (**NR16 Vol 3, Appendix 11.4**). In addition, a total of 110 archaeological events have previously taken place within the 500m study area applied for the cultural heritage assessment carried out to inform the TWAO application. These previous archaeological events include archaeological evaluation and excavation across a large proportion of the land within the study area. The results of these previous archaeological events were reviewed and included in the cultural heritage assessment.
- 1.1.5 During preparation of the TWAO application and after submission of the deemed planning consent ongoing consultant was carried out with key stakeholders including Historic England ("**HE**"), Cambridge County Council Historic Environment Team ("**HET**") and the Hobson's Conduit Trust.
- 1.1.6 Engagement with HE focused on the Scheduled Monument and resulted in agreement between both parties that a programme of archaeological fieldwork will be undertaken to mitigate the impacts to the portion of the Scheduled Monument that will be impacted by the CSIE Project. HE have raised no objections to the application for deemed planning consent (or the proposed TWAO). HE have submitted a representation in which they stated that the approach to assessment and mitigation is to their satisfaction and that they support the commitment to making an application for Scheduled Monument Consent (**NR10**) as set out in the proposed TWAO (**Rep 07**).
- 1.1.7 Engagement with Cambridge County Council Historic Environment Team focused on ensuring appropriate assessment was carried out to inform the TWAO application. Agreement was reached that geophysical survey and evaluation would take place to inform the ES. This work was completed and the results shared the Cambridge County Council Historic Environment Team and incorporated into the ES. The results of this work were used to outline appropriate mitigation for archaeological remains that will be impacted by the CSIE Project. Cambridge County Council Historic Environment Team have not objected to the application for deemed planning consent.

- 1.1.8 Ongoing consultation with the Hobson's Conduit Trust was carried out by Network Rail. Much of this engagement relates to Hobson's Conduit as a watercourse and matters to do with drainage.
- 1.1.9 However, with specific reference to Heritage, the Hobson's Conduit Trust noted in their correspondence with Network Rail that they were pleased to note the explicit recognition of the rich history of early settlement in the vicinity of the Project and welcomed the plans for further investigation. In their response Network Rail confirmed that they planned to continue to be informed by the advice from the *"County Archaeologist"* and HE in relation to the archaeological resource within the Project. In their correspondence both Hobson's Conduit Trust and Network Rail agree that their engagement has been positive and productive.
- 1.1.10 In section 5 of my evidence I recap and summarise the significant effects of the CSIE on heritage assets and provide commentary on the effects on the heritage assets raised in the objections.
- 1.1.11 The Project would have no impact on any World Heritage Sites, registered parks and gardens, registered battlefields or conservation areas. In addition, no non-designated, locally listed buildings will experience effects from the Project.
- 1.1.12 The Scheduled Monument will be affected by the Project, which is partially located within the Project boundary. Geophysical survey and archaeological evaluation carried out as part of the CSIE Project has identified further archaeological remains associated with the Scheduled Monument but outside of the scheduled area. Prior to the commencement of construction activity the small portion of the Scheduled Monument and associated archaeological activity that would be impacted would be subject to archaeological strip, maps and record excavation to preserve these features by record. This mitigation approach would be secured through condition 11¹: Archaeological mitigation, investigation and evaluation of the deemed planning consent and Scheduled Monument consent for the works within the Scheduled Monument will be applied for as committed to in document **NR 10** of the deemed planning consent. HE have stated that this approach is to their satisfaction and note that they support the commitment made to apply for Scheduled Monument consent in the request for deemed planning permission, subject to a minor change in the title of condition 11. The requested change to the title has been agreed with HE.
- 1.1.13 Following the implementation of the archaeological mitigation to be secured through condition 11 the scheduled monument will experience moderate adverse effects which is less than substantial harm for the purposes of the policies of the NPPF. HE have also stated in their representation dated 2nd August 2021 that they would not consider the impacts to the overall significance of the monument to be substantial harm.
- 1.1.14 Seven Grade II Listed Buildings will experience very minor effects from the Project. In the case of all of these listed buildings the effects will arise from changes within their setting. None of the effects on these listed buildings will be significant and will equate to the lower end of harm and definitely less than substantial harm for the purposes of the policies of the NPPF. During construction effects on these listed buildings will be mitigated through management of the flow of construction traffic and good site housekeeping practices including use of fencing, hoarding and bunding, and damping down of dust. These measures will be outlined if the CoCP part B (**NR 16 Vol 3, Appendix 2.4**). During operation designed planting around the proposed substation building will provide screening for views across from the approach to the Nine Wells Monument. The monument itself is screened by existing vegetation and tree cover and will not experience any effects on its significance as a result of the CSIE Project.

- 1.1.15 There are 12 non-designated archaeological assets located either partially or wholly within the CSIE Project boundary these assets are of medium or low value. With the mitigation measures in place one non-designated asset will experience a significant effect as a result of the CSIE Project. The remaining 11 non-designated heritage assets affected by the CSIE Project, including Hobson's conduit, will experience effects that are non-significant. Prior to the commencement of construction activity areas of known archaeological deposits would be subject to strip, maps and record excavation to preserve these features by record. This mitigation approach would be secured through condition 11
- 1.1.16 of the deemed planning consent (see the Proof of Evidence of Mr Pearson (**NRE9.2**) for the latest proposed conditions). Effects on Hobson's Conduit will be mitigated through appropriate planting which will be secured through condition 29: Hard and Soft Landscaping of the deemed planning consent.
- 1.1.17 In Section 6 of my evidence I respond to the objections to the CSIE Project that reference cultural heritage assets. The objections focus primarily on matters not directly related to cultural heritage assets and are light on detail specific to cultural heritage. None of the objections raise concerns about the level of surveys undertaken or the information provided in the assessments undertaken to inform the ES. Two objections seek confirmation that impacts to a Scheduled Monument are avoided or adequately mitigated but does not state that the objectors believe that the mitigation proposed in the Code of Construction Practice ("the **CoCP**") and ES of Strip Map and Record excavation or the conditions listed in the Deemed Planning Permission are inadequate. In Section 4 below I have set out how this approach to mitigation was arrived at and demonstrate that agreement to this approach has been reached with HE and the archaeological advisors to the local planning authority.
- 1.1.18 Other comments from objectors relate to potential effects to the listed building within Nine Wells nature reserve. In Section 6 below I have detailed what assessment of the listed building has been undertaken and demonstrate that the effects on it from CSIE will be limited.
- 1.1.19 Other comments from objectors reference Hobson's Brook or Hobson's conduit. It is not clear from the written objection whether the objectors are specifically concerned with Hobson's Brook or Hobson's conduit as a heritage asset. However, in section 6 below I have addressed how the assessment considered effects of Hobson's Brook or Hobson's conduit as a heritage asset as that is where my expertise intersects with the comments made in the objections.
- 1.1.20 In my professional opinion, sufficient assessment has been carried out to ensure that the impacts of the CSIE Project have been understood and appropriate mitigation designed and secured through draft conditions of the deemed planning consent. I consider that, if the mitigation measures set out in the environmental statement are implemented in full, then the CSIE Project would fulfil its obligations regarding the preservation of cultural heritage.

¹ Note that the numbering of the revised draft planning conditions is correct at time of production of proof but may be subject to change.

2 Declarations

1.1 I hereby declare as follows:

- a. This summary proof of evidence includes all facts which I regard as being relevant to the opinion that I have expressed and that the Inquiry's attention has be drawn to any matter which would affect the validity of that opinion.
- b. I believe the facts that I have stated in this summary proof of evidence are true and that the opinions expressed are correct.
- c. I understand my duty to the Inquiry to help it with matters within my expertise and I have complied with that duty

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