



## Cambridge Resignalling Project

Meldreth, Shepreth and Foxton Community Rail Partnership Response

23 September 2022

The Meldreth, Shepreth and Foxton Community Rail Partnership is disappointed and concerned that the response submitted to C3R in 2021 has generated no meaningful response to challenges and questions raised.

The now closing period of consultation to the Cambridge Resignalling Project rests upon narrow matters of land acquisition and affords no window to formally address or further challenge fundamental aspects of the overall scheme as it pertains to the Meldreth Road Level Crossing, Shepreth, as raised in our 2021 response. As outlined in that response, the proposed upgrade would introduce significant new harms to the local community.

The current consultation has encompassed a significant period of summer holidays. There has been no information circulated to local residents, and no opportunity for members of the public to engage directly with Network Rail. A public meeting requested by the Meldreth, Shepreth and Foxton Community Rail Partnership was scheduled for 14 September but cancelled by Network Rail due to the national period of mourning. There was no offer by Network Rail to rearrange it, and the consultation period was not extended to make up for lost time.

The response to the current consultation by Shepreth Parish Council, a constituent member of the Community Rail Partnership, makes a detailed challenge to Network Rail's presentation and use of data concerning level crossing safety, upon which the overall level crossing upgrade premise rests. These points were presented at a public meeting of the Meldreth Shepreth and Foxton Rail User Group on 21 September to which Network Rail was invited but declined to attend.

The Meldreth, Shepreth and Foxton Community Rail Partnership objects to the continuing failure of Network Rail to consult with members of the local community, and its reliance on inaccurate and contradictory data pertaining to level crossing safety data, in its case for Meldreth Road level crossing upgrade. We reiterate our request for meaningful response to concerns and challenges raised in our original consultation response.

Sincerely yours,

Susan van de Ven

Chair, Meldreth, Shepreth and Foxton Community Rail Partnership