

## Comments from Parishioners

Attn the Clerk

Hi

We were very pleased to see the proposal to take the cycle way forward. It will be great to have a safe cycle route.

Using the Hinksey Hill roundabout is alarming as a cyclist. It is not safe to cycle due to the large lorries and aggressive car drivers who are impatient to cross the roundabout.

The alternative, using the footpath involves crossing a busy slip road which leads to the A34. There is no pedestrian crossing and no lights to assist when crossing to the footpath. The second crossing has traffic lights but no pedestrian/ cyclist crossing. Drivers approaching this junction from the A34 have little to no awareness of anyone crossing. This makes it another dangerous crossing as cars roar up hoping to beat the lights. Lorries often pull over the crossing area waiting for the traffic to clear and have little visibility of anyone trying to cross.

The alternative cycle route will assist in connecting the village and ensuring a safer journey.

Please let us know if there is anything we can do to support the initiative.

Many thanks

Dear Clerk,

I am sorry if this feedback is slightly late, but I have been away.

I am a very keen cyclist. I probably cycle about 150-200 miles a week.

I also currently hold the world record for being the fastest women to cycle round the world on a tandem.

The reason I tell you this is so that you will appreciate that I know a thing or two about cycling and cycling paths.

I like the idea of joining both parishes together and a cycle path would indeed make it easy.

But .... It is very expensive. However, if there was clearer path and safer bike crossing at the traffic lights at the roundabout esp crossing the road where the cars are leaving the A34 coming up to the roundabout this would make it easier to enter the village at the top corner.

I think this would save a lot of money and still allow cyclists to cycle between the parishes.

Best wishes

Hi,

I most definitely support this initiative.

Thanks

Dear Parish Councillors,

I strongly support the proposed new cycleway from Betty Lane to the garden centre. It would improve safety when cycling down the hill towards Hinksey Hill interchange.

best wishes

### **Introduction**

I am delighted that South Hinksey Parish Council are consulting on the proposal for a new cycle/pedestrian way and I strongly support the objective of improving the route between the Village and Hinksey Hill.

### **Response**

Unfortunately, for the reasons set out below, I do not regard this as a coherent proposal and therefore am unable to support it in its present form.

In particular, while the objective of improving access for pedestrians and cyclists is an excellent one, this proposal does not consider whether the current pedestrian and cycle route could be improved and whether that would be more cost effective.

Please note that the recent improvements to the A34 roundabout at Peartree have included adding traffic light controlled crossings for cyclists and the same approach is part of the planned changes at the A34 Lodge Hill junction. I am surprised the Parish Council's consultation does not consider the option of doing the same for the A34 Hinksey Hill junction.

### **Main Comments**

My professional background is in project management and on that basis my response to this proposal would be to ask for it to be revised to resolve the following points:

- The cost estimate is approximate and unsupported, the only source I'm aware of for the figure of £100k is the comment about "T-shirt" sizing in the report of the Betty Lane Cycleway Working Group, submitted to the Parish Council as paper 4 of its July meeting.  
T-shirt based cost estimates are normally provided as a range, not a single value, and with supporting argument for the cost being within that range.
- As this proposal was put forward for review in 2004, the obvious question is what has changed in the past 19 years to make it likely that the funds will be raised and that now the project will proceed.
- As noted above, there's no discussion of alternative means of meeting the underlying objective.
- The parish council asserts that the current (frequently used) route is precarious, polluted, busy and in the council's view unsafe. I would expect to see a cost benefit analysis: are the expected improvements worth £100k; if the money can be raised, might there be better uses for it? I don't see how any route which involves crossing the A34 would be less polluted than the current one. I would also expect to see an objective measure of the problems with the current route.

Given those points, I am surprised that a simple support / don't-support response is requested.

### **Other Points**

I note the proposal's statement that the opportunity to consider this project has now arisen. It's not clear from the document why that has happened. The only recent changes I'm aware of are:

- The granting of planning permission for Wren's Hobbit and
- The application of a Stopping-Up order.

Both of those were opposed by the Parish Council.

The submission date for responses is unclear:

- The text on the Parish Council website has no closing date.
- The otherwise almost identical text sent via SHINFO asks for responses by 8<sup>th</sup> December.

Thanks for circulating information about this initiative. I support it.

All the best,

### **Support.**

Dear South Hinksey Parish Council.

I fully support the proposal.

Thanks to all who are taking this forward.

Definitely support!

It seems bizarre that a cycle route doesn't already exist parallel to this short section of A34.

And if there is spare change left in the budget, could the ever deepening ruts in the surface of the Devil's Backbone be filled?

Dear Team,

I strongly support the proposal to connect Hinksey Hill and South Hinksey with a cycle / walking path. This would be a big improvement for the local residents.

Best wishes,

Dear Parish Councillors,

I'd like to express my very strongest support for the proposed new cycle/pedestrian way from Betty Lane to the Oxford Garden centre. This would represent a game-changer for active-travel around the parish and provide a vital reconnection of the wards.

As an additional comment, I'd like to note that even if we have the new path, there will still be many occasions when pedestrians/cyclists need to traverse the Hinksey Hill interchange. It would therefore be good to simultaneously lobby for improvements for pedestrian safety around the interchange.

Best wishes,

I support the proposed cycle and pedestrian way linking Betty Lane to the Oxford Garden Centre .  
Kind regards

Dear Clerk

My family and I strongly support the proposal to connect Hinksey Hill and South Hinksey with a path and cycle track. It will be a big improvement on negotiating the Hinksey Hill roundabout and would allow us to access the garden centre and south hinksey by bike and walking. A big improvement. Please go ahead.

Best Wishes

XXXXXX and I are HUGELY supportive!!

Would make access to the city by foot or bike a pleasure as opposed to having to cross the Hinksey Hill roundabout and then make your way along the very poor and obviously polluted A34 cycle path.

If there is anything more you need then just ask

Dear Parish Clerk,

This is just a short note to say that I fully support the cycle path plan – it is a brilliant project, and whilst expensive (as these always things are) I think that the benefit gained in so many ways far outweighs the cost, and in my view this project should go ahead.

With very many thanks.

**Potential new cycle/pedestrian way for South Hinksey Parish and beyond**

I am 100% in support of this- it will be really great for people not only from the parish, but those cycling or walking from the SW of the city to have a safe route avoiding the interchange to get to Oxford, Botley, and so on.

It would also be helpful to have a safe route to the bus stop at the bottom of Hinksey Hill, especially as we no longer have any buses to the village

Thank you for pushing this forward.

We have thought for years that it would be excellent to have a footpath to the garden centre and a safe way to get to South Hinksey. We are finding it increasingly difficult to cross on the roundabout as our legs don't move as fast as they used to. Good luck with the project.

**Strongly support. Can't come soon enough.**

Hello,

I do not support a potential new cycle/pedestrian way on it's own. Such a plan needs to be a comprehensive strategic vision to better connect south hinskey to the city by a cycle and pedestrian way either by expanding the devil's backbone (and/or) creating a cycle path that connects the top of the electric highway right of way to Osney. Unless this is done at the same time there will just be more pressure put on overused and somewhat dangerous infrastructure to the east of south hinksey village.

My best,

Hi  
I support this proposal  
Kind regards

I strongly support this proposal

Re your recent communication we SUPPORT the creation of a cycle way from betty lane to south Hinksey village  
Regards

To meet the requirements of GDPR names and addresses have not been included.