

FEN DITTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Councillor Vince Farrar

12 September 2013

Growth and Economy,
Cambridgeshire County Council,
Box no CC1213, Castle Court
Castle Hill
Cambridge, CB3 0AP
Attention Mr Tim Watkins

Dear Sirs,

Response to Planning Application C/05001/13/CC – erection of station building etc, land at Chesterton Sidings (Science Park Station)

We refer to your letter ref C/05001/12/CC &S/00437/13/CC of 8th July 2013 requesting the views of Fen Ditton Parish Council (FDPC) on the above planning application and accompanying Environmental Statement (ES). May we take this opportunity to thank you for agreeing to a delayed reply so that FDPC could consider the matter at the September meeting.

FDPC broadly supports the proposed development with its objective of providing an additional railway station in the north of Cambridge. However, there are a number of specific details we wish to be addressed:

- we welcome the recognition given to the importance of Ditton Meadows and Stourbridge Common as water meadows forming the green, River Cam Corridor (Planning Statement para 2.30)
- we welcome the confirmation that Ditton Meadows and Stourbridge Common are part of a conservation area (Figure 9.1 of the ES)
- we welcome the confirmation that Ditton Meadows is a City wildlife Site/ Protected Open Space (Figure 9.1 of the ES)
- we object to these meadows being presented as an “Opportunity” for a Guided Busway Extension (or Phase 2) without a balancing identification of the River Cam Corridor and its designated features as “Constraints” (D&A Statement Figure 13);
- we welcome the attention given to operational noise and the statement that the PA will not be used after 11 pm (ES 11.153);
- we request that some baseline noise measurements are made along the river bank on both sides since these tranquil areas are used by picnickers and walkers. If operational noise from the station PA or on-train PA proves to be a nuisance, especially in the afternoon and evening, we would welcome a commitment from Network Rail to reassess the noise and examine the scope for further mitigation
- we welcome the attention given to operational lighting (ES Section 10);
- we request that the baseline light levels and nuisance glare assessment is extended to include pedestrians on the river bank on both sides and in Ditton Meadows.
- we note that Green Dragon bridge is not shown on cycle / pedestrian plans (Transport Assessment Figure 26 and others) and request your confirmation that this is a drafting error.

Yours faithfully,

Charles Jones

Charles Jones
Vice Chairman, Fen Ditton Parish Council