

# NEWPORT PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Christine Griffin

Waterloo House, High Street, Newport, Essex. CB11 3PG

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3<sup>rd</sup> July, 2017

Ms. Angela Foster  
Transport & Works Act Orders Unit  
Department of Transport  
Zone 1/14  
Great Minster House  
33 Horseferry Road  
London  
SW1P 4DR

Dear Madam

Transport and Works (Act 1992: Application for the proposed network rail (Essex and others level crossing reduction) Order

Newport Parish Council strongly objects to the proposed closure of Level Crossings **E9 Elephant, E10 Dixies and E11 Windmills**. In our opinion, these crossings are low risk and one incident elsewhere should not lead to a permanent loss of public rights of way.

## E9 Elephant

This crossing is used by a considerable number of our residents and visitors as it is a very popular and attractive walk from the centre of the village. We would suggest that automatic gates with flashing lights should be installed that would automatically lock as a train approached. Should anyone be caught between gates when they lock, there is ample space for designated refuges to be created on both sides of the track for safety whilst a train passes. There is a similar crossing at Cannon's Mill Lane, further south down the line at Bishop's Stortford.

The alternative suggested route is complicated, far less attractive and a considerable extra distance. It also requires crossing Debden Road at a place where visibility is difficult and potentially dangerous or walking an even greater distance to Newport Station to cross over the station footbridge,

Your proposed alternative will also cost a substantial amount of money (additionally involving compensation paid to the owner of the land over which it must pass).

E10 Dixies

Over the next few months there will be significant development in the area to the north, and east of Bury Water Lane; planning permission has already been granted. This crossing will provide a major link to the village for residents living in that area. Again, we would suggest that automatic gates with lights should be installed together with a designated refuge area similar to the crossing in Cannon's Mill Lane.

Yours faithfully

Andrew Yarwood  
Chairman of Newport Parish Council



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