

40 Barty Lynch and wife
Newmarket
Suffolk

CB8 8YT
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20 November 2017

Dear Sirs,

NEWMARKET WEATHERBY PEDESTRIAN RAILWAY CROSSING

Might I declare my vehement opposition to the proposal to close the Weatherby Crossing in Newmarket by Network Rail.

I and my late wife ^{have} used, and indeed I still use, this pedestrian crossing at least twice weekly over the last 30 years as the most convenient and safe route to the centre of Newmarket.

My son and grandsons, who live on the Studlands Estate at the far western side of the town, use the crossing frequently when they cycle over to visit me. They see it

as part of the safest and quickest route across the town; exposure to heavy traffic is kept to a minimum.

I am absolutely sure that people of advancing years and young parents who walk or push their children to the centre of town via the crossing, which are very numerous, will view the closure as a most detrimental and unfortunate action. The alternative routes would be unthinkable.

There are easy electrical solutions to the safety issues raised by Network Rail, for example, installing an interlock to prevent the gates being opened when trains are due. The construction of a bridge over the railway line has been mooted but, in my mind, this is not the answer, although acceptable to the more mobile users it would cause big difficulties to many others.

In closing, I would urge Network Rail to completely reconsider its intentions on this matter and keep the crossing open.

Yours Sincerely,