

Ellen Callaghan

From: Ian Thomas [REDACTED]
Sent: 14 July 2019 12:33
To: Risborough Expansion
Subject: Comment on Princes Risborough Expansion Plan consultation

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are writing to comment on the Princes Risborough expansion plan. It is described as happening in several phases, and we see that the Culverton Link will not be developed until very late in the town's expansion. The proposal to utilise Shootacre and Picts Lane as a 'temporary' relief route until then is completely flawed. The original expansion proposals rejected this route for good reasons. To delay building the Culverton Link until much later is a failure to invest in critical infrastructure required to underpin major expansion of the town and ignores significant impacts on existing residents and the immediate environment.

Shootacre Lane and Picts Lane are within the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and have a rural character. They are important routes for pedestrians and horse riders wishing to reach surrounding countryside via local paths such as the Phoenix Trail and Ridgeway. They also form part of existing National/regional cycle routes and are well used by cyclists. The planned use of Shootacre Lane and Picts Lane as a relief route intends to increase the volume and speed of traffic along them. This will destroy the rural character of the immediate area, increase pollution and directly threaten the safety of more vulnerable road users.

This is particularly the case as the proposals have looked only at whether junctions can handle increased traffic volumes and completely ignored whether the roads themselves can cope. Shootacre Lane and Picts Lane are narrow, do not have footpaths throughout, and are totally unsuited for the lorries that would be expected to use them during building work around the town.

The residents of properties along Picts Lane and Shootacre Lane will also be directly affected. For many, getting on and off the road requires reversing out of narrow driveways that have limited views of oncoming traffic. Increasing traffic volume will increase the danger that residents and road users are exposed to, and will slow traffic flow, particularly during peak commuting hours. In addition, many of the properties are close to the roadside, and will be exposed to increased noise and pollution.

The development of the Culverton Link should be included as part of the early expansion planned for Princes Risborough. It is a key part of the required infrastructure and mitigates the problems described above. It will help ensure better traffic flow through the town that Shootacre Lane and Picts Lane cannot support. The £376,000 needed for junction changes on the 'temporary' relief route is a waste of money, better invested elsewhere.

Yours Faithfully,

Mr & Mrs Thomas
[REDACTED]

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