Comment:

As a person who lives approximately 300m from where the new station will be built I cannot help but be concerned that our little estate (Haling Place) will inevitably be swamped with cars. I understand the car park will be free, therefore anyone who not a complete idiot will be heading to Waterbeach over Cambridge North Station.

More importantly is the access to the site that is currently proposed. Cody Road is a small residential road which has already turned from a smooth, complete and easy to access road to a lumpy, frequently flooded and little cared for shambles. It is the only route in and out of Haling Place and there are now frequent delays and weaving around obstacles. To propose it as a reasonable route for another 400k people (the current average that uses Waterbeach station per year) and before that all the heavy-duty equipment/traffic is unthinkable. We already know from the absolute destruction of the paths and roads around the new estates that have been built on Bannold Road that the developers have nothing but profit on their minds. The fact that they have started to move on without repairing any of the damage is further testament to this.

The Bannold Road/Cody Road junction is already a difficult place to negotiate. On average, I have to change my route twice a week because there are large lorries parked so I cannot safely turn out of the junction or large construction vehicles that have missed the turn and are reversing back up the middle of the road to try to make the turn. There are construction items frequently parked on Cody Road (road rollers / equipment to be used the next day etc). There are often construction lorries parked around the junction which makes crossing the junction by foot extremely difficult. Please hold in mind that this junction is used by many of the children from the primary school who’s gate lies just 200 meters or so from this junction. This needs to stop before a child is seriously injured or killed. My own child, who is desperate to be given the independence to walk home from school, has had to ask an adult to help cross the road as there are lorries parked within 20 meters of the junction, not only over the dipped curb but completely blocking visibility.

As a relatively new resident to Waterbeach (we’ve been here 3 years) I have always been positive about the changes that have been proposed, largely because the new large-scale developments have always been sold to us as having access from outside Waterbeach via the A10 and having no vehicular impact on the town. The proposal to use Cody Road as access to the station site makes a joke of these appeasements.

We are not inconsequential and irrelevant but we are being treated that way and it is time for it to stop.