

Dear Parents and Carers

Changes to Road Access to our Schools

You will all be aware of the extensive building work for West Cambourne but may not realise the significant impact the new road network will have on access to our schools.

Some very concerning changes are planned for our approach roads, as shown below. The current access, Fig 1 is being replaced by the layout on Fig 2. This new route will serve a dense area of housing, with many driveways opening directly onto our approach roads. No parking restrictions are apparently planned, so there is a very strong likelihood of extreme congestion at peak school traffic times. Our in-house traffic survey carried out on Wednesday 9 Feb recorded 1215 vehicles entering our shared school site between 07.30 and 20.15h.

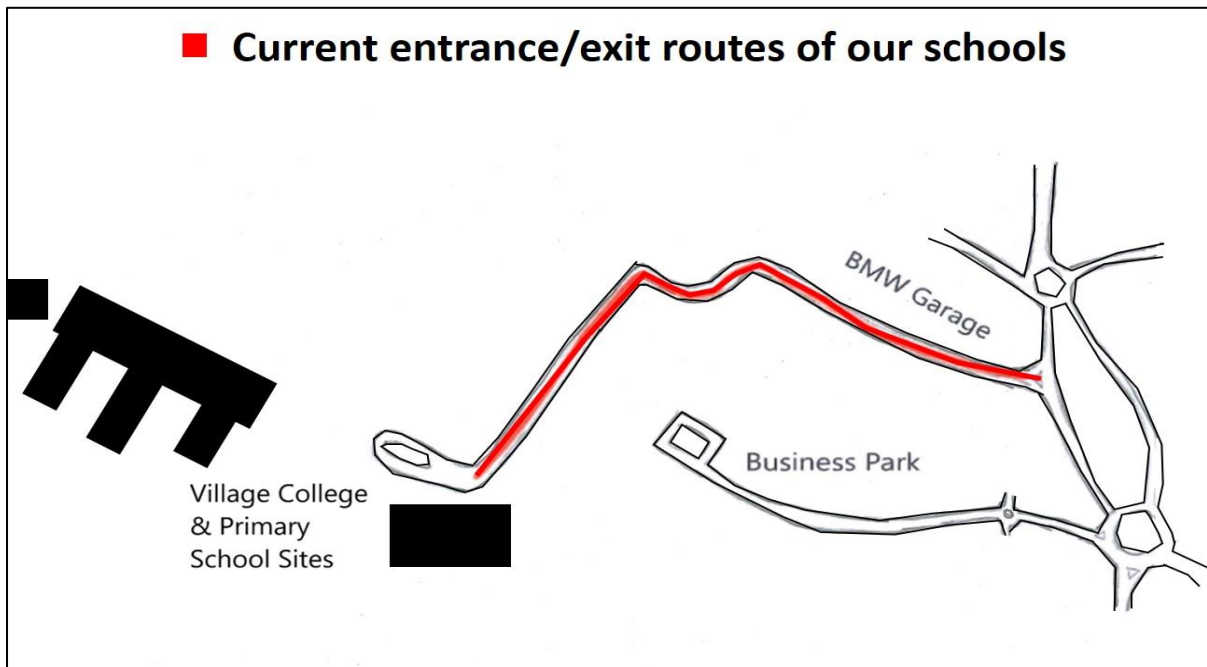


Figure 1: Current entrance/exit routes of our schools

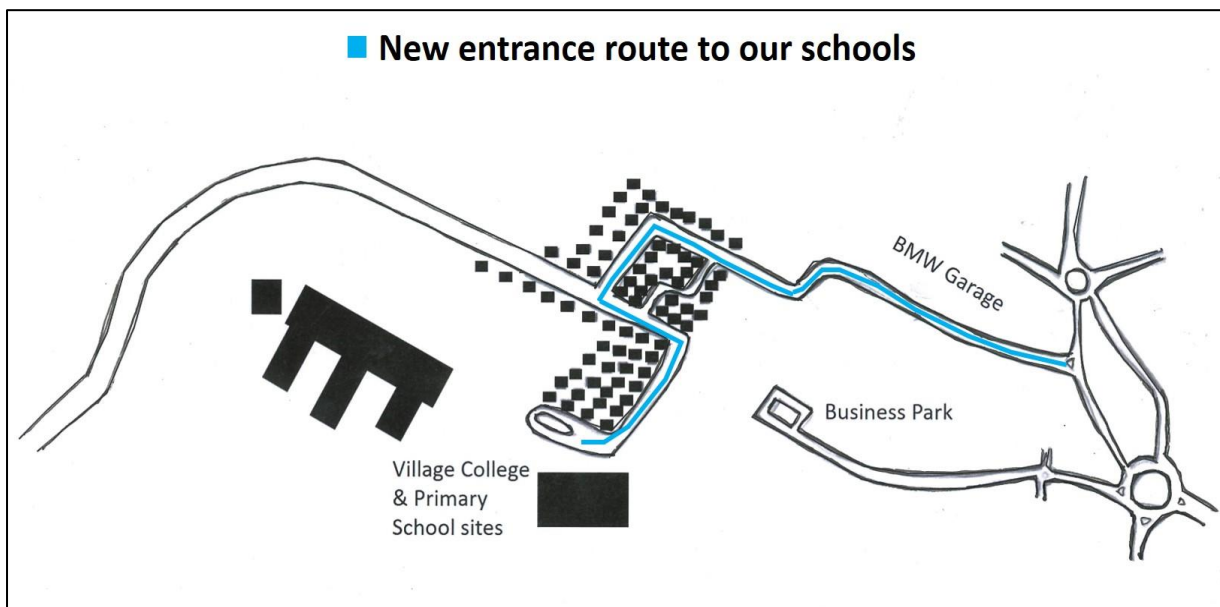


Figure 2: New entrance routes to our schools

There has been minimal contact with either of our schools regarding changes to our access, either from the developers, Taylor Wimpey / Bovis Homes, from their agents, Ellipsis, or from SCDC planning department: we have never been directly consulted on the impact on our schools of these changes.

You will be aware that the section of Sheepfold Lane immediately outside our gates has been narrowed, with drop-down kerbs already built to give access to future homes fronting the road. A request to widen this section of road has so far been ignored. The secondary school has had to respond to these changes by including a one-way system within its new development plans, to prevent complete traffic gridlock at peak times (See Fig 3.) The new plans involve entry onto campus for vehicles via Sheepfold Lane and passage right through the site to exit onto the West Cambridge road network. This is far from ideal but unfortunately is the only sensible response at present to the imposed changes.

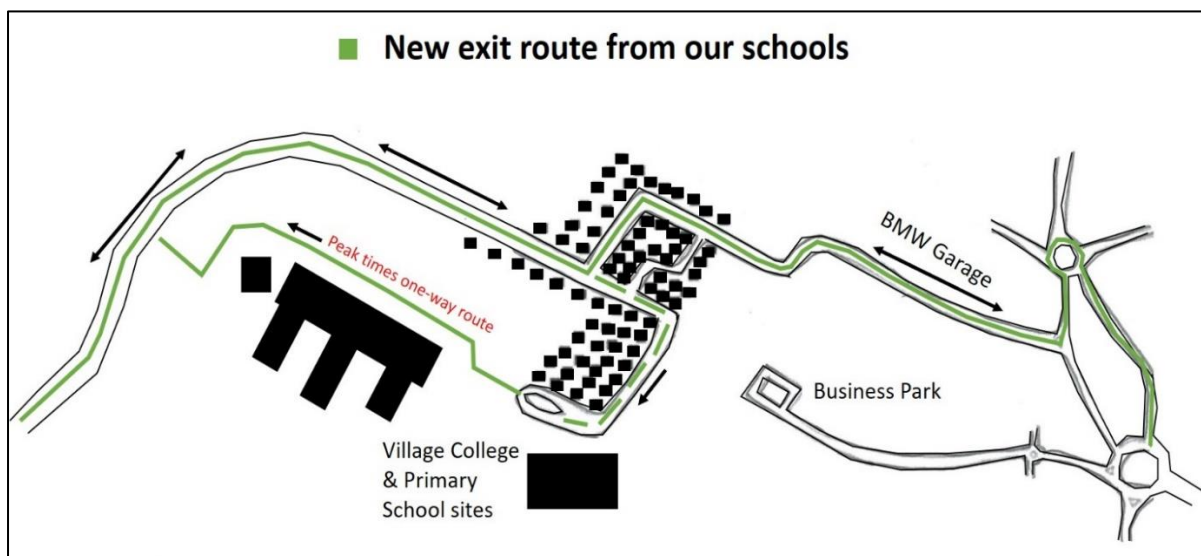


Figure 3: New exit routes from our schools

Possible Solutions

There would seem to be two ways in which this undesirable situation can be averted. One is to reinstate our current direct access along Sheepfold Lane with a new road wide enough to take full school traffic:

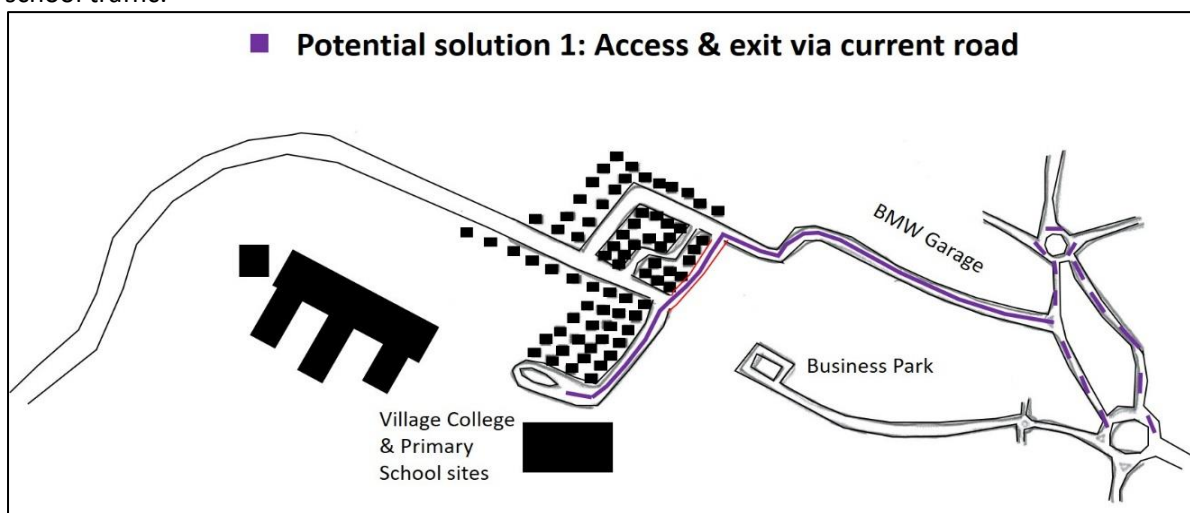


Figure 4: Potential route 1: reinstating the current access road

An alternative solution is to convert the planned bus/cycle route from the Business Park onto Sheepfold Lane with a road open to all traffic, and a corresponding widening of the narrowed section of Sheepfold Lane: Figure 5.

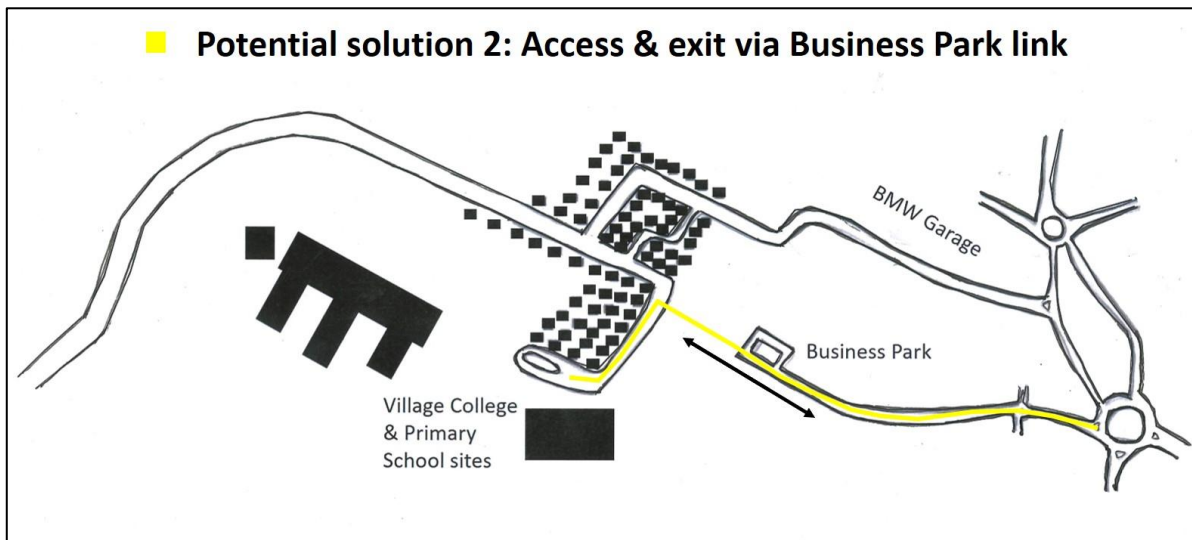


Figure 5: Potential route 2: through the Business Park

Lack of Cycle Path

Alongside this problem of vehicular access, we have the ongoing dangerous situation to the south, caused by the lack of cycle path the length of Swansley Lane which forces our young cyclists to ride into oncoming traffic due to cars parked on the road. The installation of a full cycle path is apparently planned, but despite pressing appeals over the past years from the secondary school, progress is slow in moving this forward with the controlling developers' agent: Ellipsis.

If you would like to see more of the plans for West Cambourne and the new access routes for our schools, you can search on the South Cambridgeshire Planning Portal: [Applications Search \(greatercambridgeplanning.org\)](https://www.greatercambridgeplanning.org) : Application Reference number: 20/01640/REM

If you share the schools' concern on these matters and want to avoid the inevitable lengthened journey times and congestion on your car journeys to school, we urge you to express your views:

- Chief Executive Officer of the South Cambs District Council, Ms Liz Watts: liz.watts@scambs.gov.uk
- Our MP, Anthony Browne, whom we contacted more than a year ago about these issues: anthony.browne.mp@parliament.uk.
- Ellipsis, the agents for the developers Taylor Wimpey/Bovis Homes stephanie.moffat@ellipsisland.com

We would be delighted to hear from anyone able to support us in this appeal to rationalise our combined schools' future access.

Yours sincerely

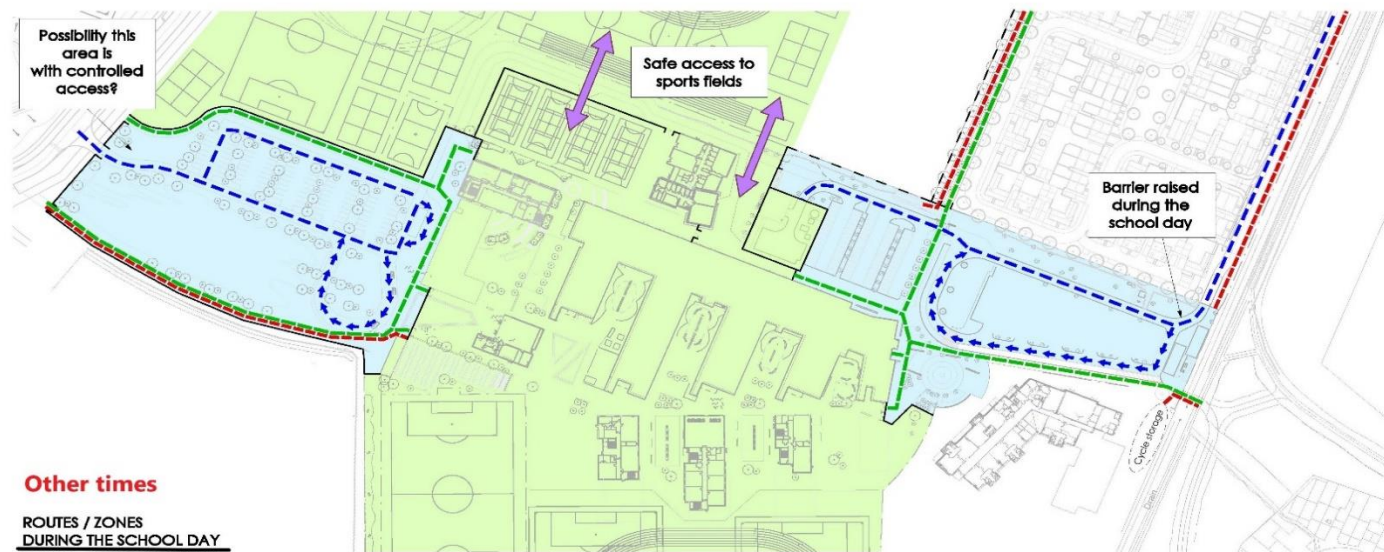
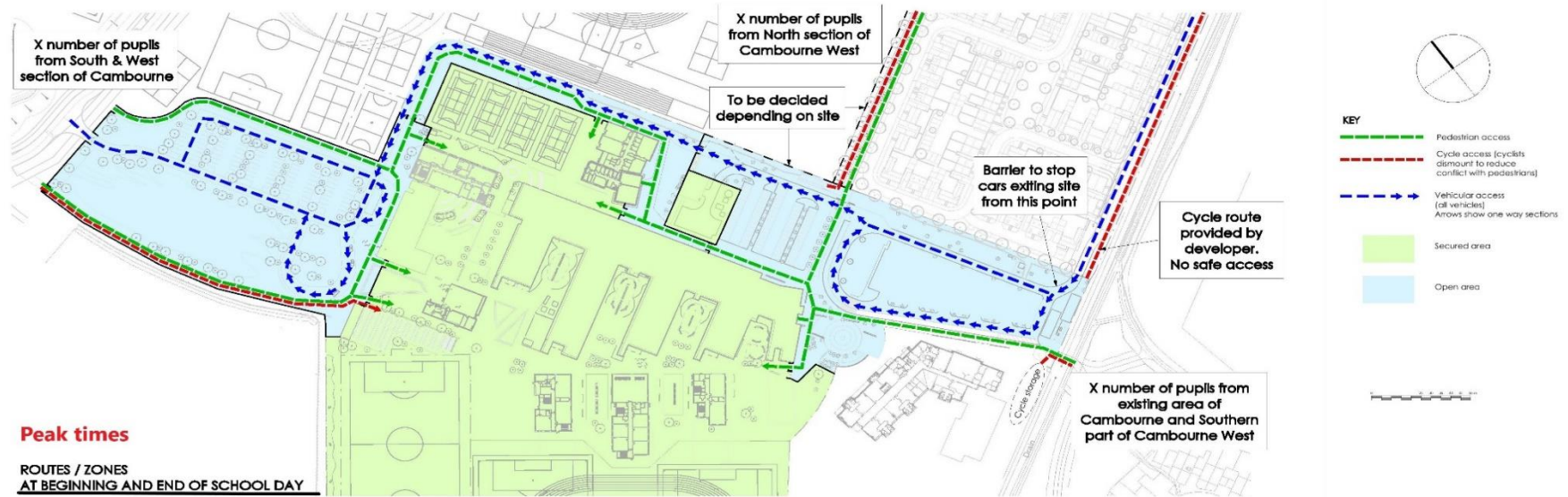
Claire Coates

James Hoban

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Cambourne Village College

Hardwick and Cambourne Primary School



CAMBOURNE VILLAGE COLLEGE PH 3
 FOR K&B EASTERN

Routes & Security zones

DRAWING NO: 4108/SK18 REVISION NO:

Scale: 1:1,000 @ A1 Date: 31/01/2021 Status: Information

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Figure 6: Traffic zones planned for through the school day