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Cambridge Cycling Campaign

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P R E S S R E L E A S E

**Cambridge Cycling Campaign says
Coldhams Lane Bridge proposals are "entirely inadequate"**

On Monday, County and City councillors will consider arrangements for getting cyclists on and off the new pedestrian and cycle bridge which is to be built over the railway alongside the existing Coldhams Lane bridge on the Beehive side of the road. The bridge itself has already been approved.

Cambridge Cycling Campaign has told the Council that it considers the proposed arrangements for access at either end of the new bridge entirely inadequate.

Campaigner David Earl said "The Council is spending a million pounds on the cycle bridge but wasting it by not getting the access arrangements right."

Under the council proposals cyclists travelling east towards Sainsburys would have to stop at a traffic signal just past the Beehive roundabout, cross over Coldhams Lane to get onto the cycle bridge. Then at the other side of the bridge they would wait at another traffic signal before re-crossing Coldhams Lane.

Furthermore no provision is made for direct access to the new bridge from the Beehive site or the cycleway to York Street, forcing a right turn at the Beehive roundabout – which is

shortly to have a fourth road joining it – followed by crossing and re-crossing Coldhams Lane.

Many cyclists would remain on the road rather than cope with these delays. Others cyclists will be inconvenienced in order to use the bridge. Cyclists new to the route would be faced with a very busy roundabout in order to make use of the new facility.

Westbound cyclists would not be able to join the bridge at the obvious point and will be disgorged onto the roundabout at the other.

David Earl also said: "The bridge is also being constructed to the minimum possible width, much less than the width of the cycle bridge at the station. Its piers will block possible future north-south cycle routes and public transport options alongside the railway."

"The Campaign would prefer the million pounds to be put towards a structure which allows two-way use without crossing and re-crossing the road. For example, a reconstructed road bridge, or additional bridges on both sides of the existing road bridge. If this is impossible, the existing pavement over the road bridge should be converted to for use by cyclists in addition to the proposed bridge."

The Campaign also thinks that the Beehive roundabout should be replaced by traffic lights which would allow safer access to and from the Beehive site.

ENDS

For further information please contact:

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Notes for editors:

1. Cambridge Cycling Campaign was formed in 1995 and now has around 700 members. It campaigns for "better, safer and more cycling in and around Cambridge".
2. Cambridgeshire County Council yesterday issued a press release 719/01 about this matter. Contact there is John Clough 01223 717508

