

Agenda Item No. 6 – Amendment Sheet

New pedestrian and cycle bridge across the River Cam, including access ramps, lighting, steps, paths to the public highway, landscaping, replacement of the jetty, and flood compensation areas.

AT: Land between Ditton Walk and Fen Road across Ditton Meadows and the River Cam, Cambridge.

APPLICANT: Cambridgeshire County Council

LPA REF: C/5005/16/CC

The Wildlife Trust have requested that the following paragraphs be amended in the report, in order to clarify their consultation response and current position. New text in **bold**, deleted text ~~strikethrough~~.

6.0 CONSULTATION RESPONSES

- 6.18 ~~The Wildlife Trust objected based on the lack of information, and lack of survey work regarding the ecological impact of the proposal.~~ **objected to this application because collectively with the Trail Phase 1 application (reference: C/5007/16/CC) it represents a net loss in biodiversity. The Wildlife Trust considers that the two applications form part of the same scheme and are inherently linked, so their environmental impacts must be considered together. In addition the Wildlife Trust objected based on lack of information, and lack of survey work regarding the ecological impact of the proposal.**

9.0 PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

- 9.73 In terms of overall habitat loss and creation for the Bridge application, the applicants have provided a table, at the request of consultees, which clearly sets out the habitat loss and creation across the application site. This table shows that the existing 2 ha of habitat will retain 0.65 ha, with 1.35 ha loss (primarily semi-improved grassland of Ditton Meadows) and 1.35 gain (mainly species rich grassland). However, the applicants have included the 0.1 ha of “bare ground”, for the cycle way, as part of the habitat gain. This is not agreed by The Wildlife Trust as it would be considered to be a loss of habitat. Therefore, the Wildlife Trust has ascertained that there would be a small net loss in ~~biodiversity~~ **habitat** in terms of hectares. However, owing to the enhancement works proposed as part of the Bridge application, The Wildlife Trust has concluded that the proposal represents a small net gain in biodiversity, as the new habitats will represent an enhancement over the current situation on site. For example, dense scrub and semi-improved grassland will be replaced with species rich grassland and species rich hedgerow.

9.74 The consideration that the proposal represents an overall net gain in biodiversity value is supported by the CCC Ecology Officer. However, it should be noted that The Wildlife Trust's objection to this application still stands. The Trust considered that the Bridge and Phase 1 Trail applications are intrinsically linked and that one should not be considered without the other. Their objection to the Trail application currently remains on that application, and until they are able to remove their objection to the Trail application, they consider that an objection to the Bridge application should remain as well. **They consider that together the two applications represent a net loss in biodiversity, with the small net gain from the Bridge application C/5005/16/CC failing to offset the greater net losses from the Chisholm Trail application C/5007/16/CC.**