

To The Planning Policy Team for the attention of Greater Cambridge Shared Planning .
Comment and Objection in Response to Consultation on South Newnham Neighbourhood Plan.
17th May 2024
From Mr Alan and Mrs Eleanor Jones resident at [REDACTED] for 50
years.

Re Evidence Base, pages 20 and 21.LGS2.

This section is incomplete.

It does not describe the situation as it now is as a result of the huge changes which have affected the site and which are irreversible For example, the growth in the surrounding population able to reach the site,the need for low cost family recreation, the change in the small adjacent University bathing station to a Swimming Club with some 1,000members and the drive from Central and Local Government for fitness and access to the countryside for all.

It does not refer to the ongoing discussions about the transfer of the management of Grantchester Meadows from Kings College to another body, which may impact on the site.

This is the Reality which the Plan has to address.

The section is unbalanced in that it highlights the potential to return the site to its historic (car free) condition without mentioning the potential to manage the area to accommodate walkers, cyclists and vehicles without damaging the environment.

This is a matter for the County Council as the Highway Authority in consultation with Cambridge City Council to resolve urgently. The work done at the entrance to the Byron's Pool LNR is a good example..

Re South Newnham Neighbourhood Plan Policy SNNP4. Creating local Green Spaces, page 37.
We object strongly to LGS2 The Skaters Meadow Footpath being Designated as a Local Green Space.

It is clearly not a Green Space at the moment. It is the only entrance to Grantchester Meadows from the City and further afield. It is a place of transition rather than a place visited in its own right for enjoyment.

The footpath, recently called The Skaters Meadow Footpath by enthusiasts, is simply the public footpath between Newnham and Grantchester.

The footpath at this point has long since been absorbed within the adjacent area of significant informal unsurfaced parking. 33 vehicles at the last count. It is dangerously potholed and almost impassable in heavy rain, which is predicted to increase with global warming..

As far as the National Criterion for Designation as a Green Space is concerned it does not meet Criterion b. It is Demonstrably Special, but as a huge problem not a beautiful space. The demand for vehicle access and short term parking is constant from service providers and the public. A compromise will have to be found between human and environmental needs. Designation as a Green Space will not help to achieve this.

Signed, [REDACTED]

Dated 17th May 2024

