

# Wrestlingworth and Cockayne Hatley Parish Council

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18<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Rt Hon A Burt MP  
House of Commons  
London SW1A 0AA

Dear Mr Burt

## East West Rail

We write to express the Parish Council's concern on behalf of local residents at what we understand to be the preferred route of National Rail for the East West Rail link between Bedford and Cambridge. Local understanding is that the chosen route is likely to be C 2-2.

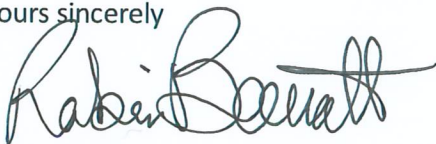
The National Infrastructure Commission has recommended that the East West Rail link and the A428 Expressway should be aligned so that they serve both existing and emerging communities at St Neots, Cambourne and surrounding developments and also Northstowe. The proposed C 2-2 route does not fulfil the National Infrastructure Commission's recommendation. On the contrary, the C 2-2 route would have an adverse ecological impact on large areas of countryside in Central Bedfordshire and South Cambridgeshire and cause planning blight for the many villages along the proposed route, with no benefits. The area is already well served by the Kings Cross / St Pancras railway line.

We understand that the CamBedRoadRail group (<http://www.cambedrailroad.org>) have presented their proposal to you for a route which would align with the A428 Expressway. Their proposal would provide new stations at Bedford/South Wixams, St Neots, Cambourne and Northstowe and a relocated station at Waterbeach. All areas subject to significant housing expansion with a real need to have ready access to Cambridge.

The Parish Council supports CamBedRoadRail. We have made a contribution to their funding appeal and signed their petition requesting the Department for Transport ensures that the proposal for a northern route for the central section of the East West Rail is fairly evaluated at the same time and to the same degree as alternative routes proposed by the East West Rail Company.

We would urge you to put pressure on the Department of Transport to consider the obvious logic of the CamBedRoadRail group proposal to maximise the benefits of the East West rail link.

Yours sincerely



Robin Barratt  
Chairman Wrestlingworth & Cockayne Hatley Parish Council