

Rachel Tibbetts

From: Paul Troop <pault@gclaw.co.uk>
Sent: 13 September 2024 15:53
To: Planning
Cc: Bbosa, Rashid - Oxfordshire County Council; Catherine Hickman
Subject: 24/02058/F Comments

Importance: High

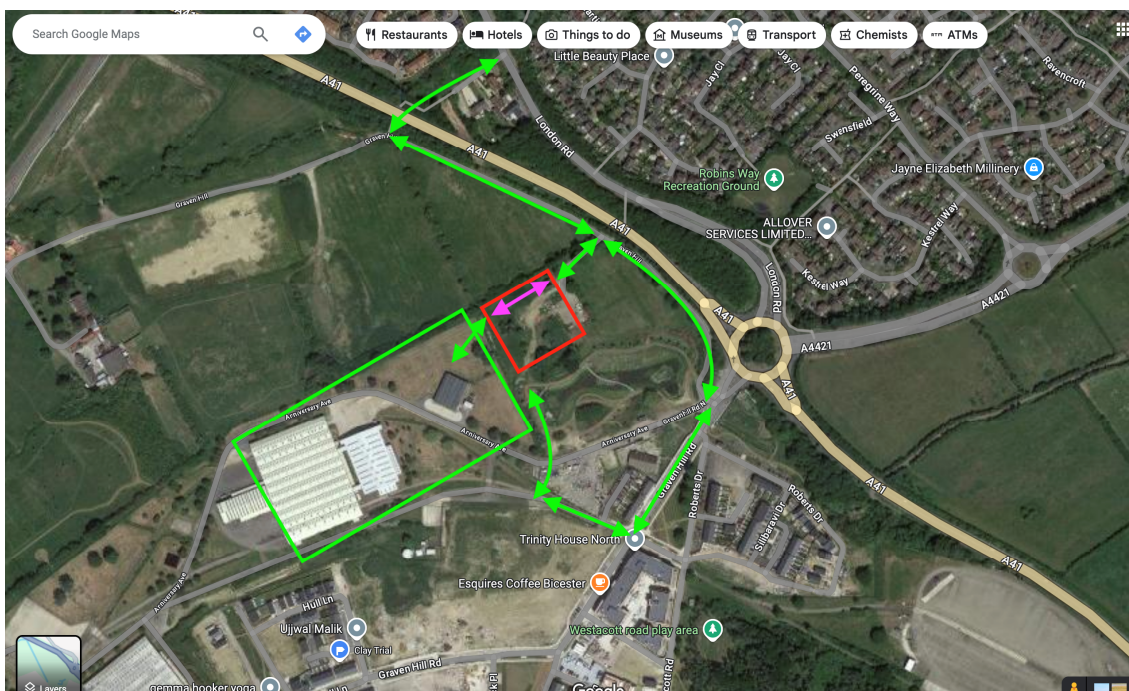
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Dear sir or madam

I write as secretary of the Bicester Bike Users' Group. We have a particular concern that the current design of the development is very car dependent. The current design closes off the opportunities for visitors, residents, or employees to travel between the facility or the town centre or Langford Park by wheelchair, mobility scooter, foot, or cycle.

However, this could be easily remedied, and would also benefit both residents and the public in accessing the community centre and recreation fields.

The issue is that the shortest and quickest route for non-motorised means of transport is from the existing means of access to the former Rodney House social centre site is via the northeastern corner. This connects via land due for development to the A41 underpass, to the London Road, and to the Langford Fields park via a new parallel crossing over the London Road currently in development with Active Travel England funds. This route has been earmarked to be preserved in the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan.



However, as currently designed, there is no link from the site to this route. Instead, non-motorised users are expected to take a very circuitous route all the way around the site, adding at least a kilometer to the route (considering both directions) and precluding non-motorised options.

It is strongly advised that a non-motorised route is preserved along the northwestern boundary of the site to enable this essential link to be preserved and connected with pedestrian and cycle routes on the Graven Hill masterplan:



This would also have another significant benefit to the site in that it would enable residents to access the community centre and recreation fields to the west. In addition, it would have the collateral benefit of preserving a foot and cycle path between the community centre and recreation fields and Bicester town centre.

I hope this can be addressed.

Yours faithfully, Paul Troop
Secretary, Bicester Bike Users' Group

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