

From: David Wilson
Sent: 11 June 2020 10:25
To: Planning <Planning@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk>
Cc: Somerton Parish Council <somertonparishcouncil@gmail.com>
Subject: Ref: Master Plan 18/00825/HYBRID SPC

For the attention of Andrew Lewis.

**Somerton
User Worked Crossing/Footpath Bridleway Crossing with
Miniature Stop Lights**

I have recently learnt of the plan to close the aforementioned railway crossing and would like to strongly object.

The canal towpath is heavily used by local Somerton residents and a host of nature lovers/ramblers/country walkers, throughout the year.

The Somerton crossing is one of the few places where it is possible and permissible to cross the railway line safely with mitigated risk.

There are no other valid crossing points along that stretch of the canal towpath until one reaches the Heyfords. I fear that if the decision to close the crossing is taken, then this will lead to enhanced risk, when walkers, who are unable to spend the amount of time necessary to carry on to the Heyfords to safely cross, will inevitably take additional risks and cross the line at places where it is not safe to do so.

I would urge you to deny permission to close this crossing which has been known as a safe and risk managed site to cross the railway to walkers and country users for many decades.

Thank you in anticipation of your urgent consideration.

Yours sincerely,

David Wilson.

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