

**From:** Elizabeth Harvey-Lee

**Sent:** 18 June 2020 16:31

**To:** Andrew Lewis

**Subject:** Proposed development at Upper Heyford - affecting railway crossing 1 West Cottages, Middle Aston Road, North Aston,

Dear Mr Lewis,

I am writing with concern about the proposed new development at Upper Heyford Park and especially the potential proposition to close the railway crossing on the track which crosses the canal and via the causeway footpath continues as a footpath up to Grange Farm, and ultimately up to Middle Aston Lane.

The only properties that need access across the railway are the mill - and the two canal cottages.

So there cannot be many times in a day when a vehicle goes over.

The alternative idea of a road down to those properties all the way from Middle Aston Road, is a nightmare.

It would destroy the existing causeway footpath.

I live on Middle Aston Road, mid-way between the villages of North Aston & Middle Aston and frequently walk down to the canal. Very rarely do I ever meet anyone walking the causeway path.

Even during lockdown, when more people have been 'exercising,' and needing somewhere to walk, as far as I have noticed, they are all walking along the canal towpath, accessing it

from Somerton or Upper Heyford old village, not from across the railway crossing. Scarcely a soul has ventured onto the causeway.

The causeway is not only a nice walk, but part of our local heritage.

It is centuries old and very well 'designed' in that in Winter floods it is still above water level.

The ditches either side fill up, but it is very very very rarely that the water ever goes over the causeway.

I cannot believe that there is going to be an increase in pedestrian traffic from the eastern side of the railway. But a footbridge could answer that problem.

After the earlier restriction of numbers of new houses built on the former Heyford Airbase, are they really going to be allowed to build 1100 more? Are they needed?

In the post-Corona era, will people want to be buying houses where it probably involves commuting and using the train from Bicester Village or Bicester North.

Yours sincerely,

Elizabeth Harvey-Lee

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