Oxford to Cambridge Expressway public information meeting 7.30pm Thursday 7th November, Seacourt Hall

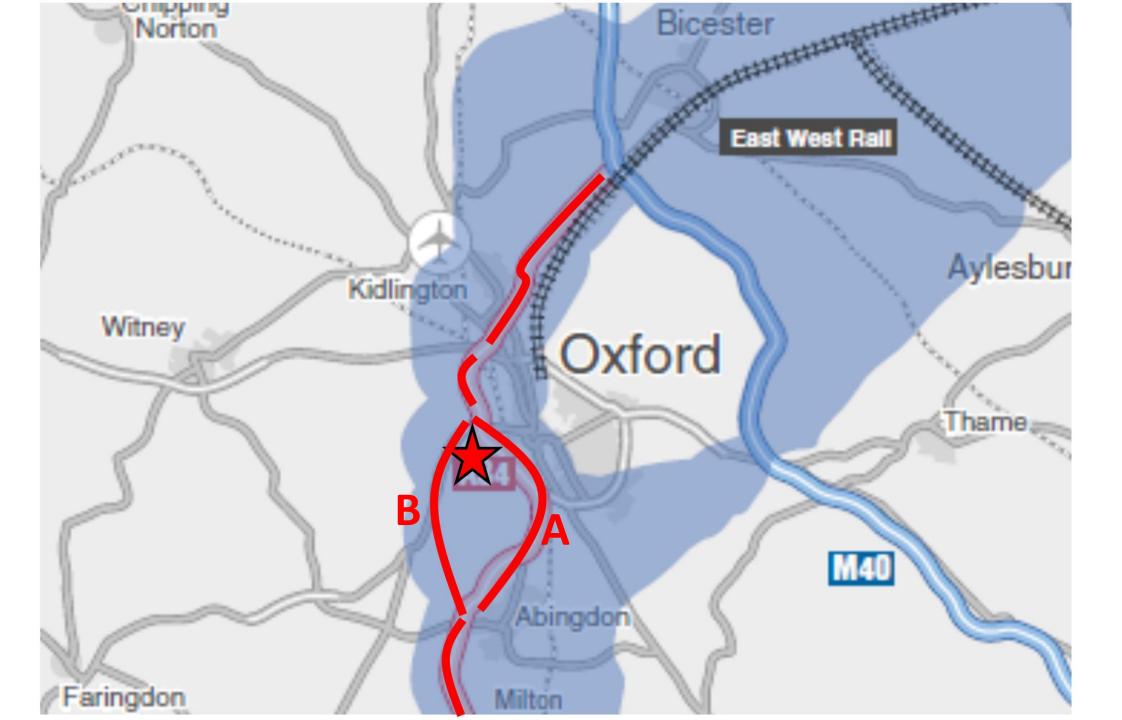
David Kay - Chairman, North Hinksey Parish Council

Potential local impacts of Expressway routes through Botley and North Hinksey

This presentation highlights a number of major potential impacts that would arise from an Expressway running through our area. More detailed information about these impacts has been passed on to Highways England for them to build into their assessments of 'appropriate' routes.

With the promised public consultation delayed until 2020 we don't know exactly which routes will be put forward, but we do know that they are planning to propose three possible routes running to the west of Oxford.

Based on previous reports and statements two routes that will have been assessed look something like this ...

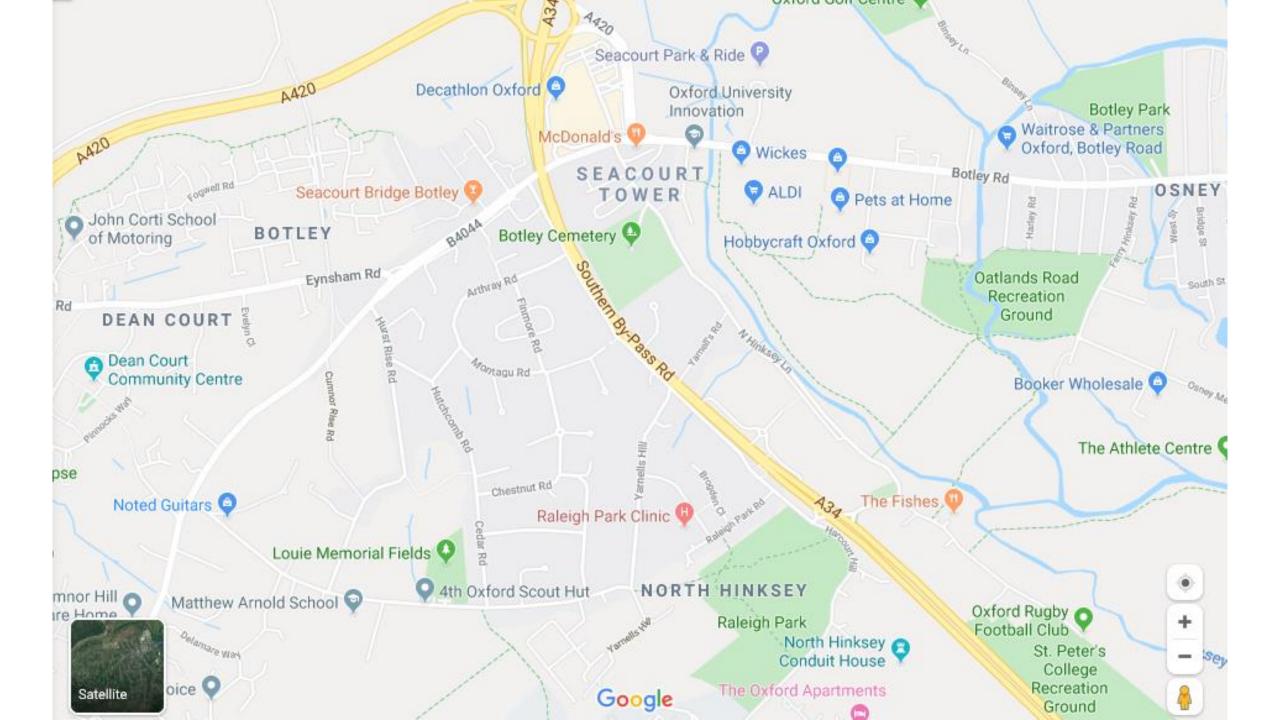


Both of these possible routes use the A34 up to around Abingdon, and from the Botley junction onwards to the north. To the south west of Oxford they take two different routes which are shown as A and B here (my designation only, not official).

Route A continues to follow the A34 all the way, which fits in with the concept of using current roads and upgrading them (i.e. widening them) rather than building new roads. It would be the nightmare scenario for Botley, and we are hoping that the huge number of issues (as detailed here) will result in them rejecting this route – they haven't yet!

Route B cuts north west along new roads to the A420, then follows that road to the Botley junction with the A34. This has its own set of problems, many of them impacting heavily on Cumnor Parish.





Air and noise pollution:

Whichever route is finally chosen there will be a significant increase in traffic, and particularly in freight traffic passing through our area.

If route A is chosen that means more air and noise pollution along the A34 where there is already an Air Quality Management Area in place. Houses, schools and more will suffer.

If route B is chosen then the housing along Fogwell Road and the new Tilbury Field Estate will suffer worst.

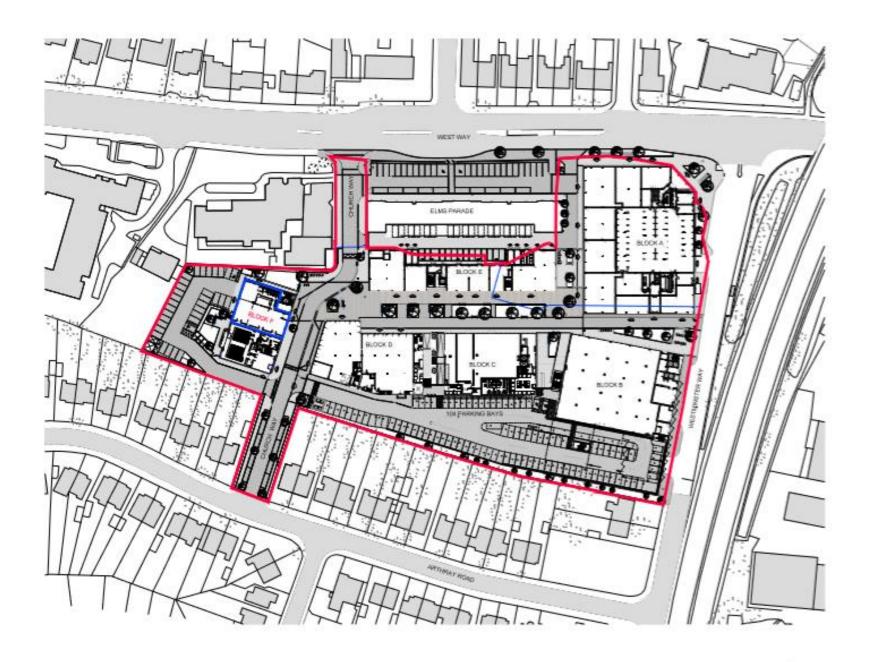
Either route will result in bad news for Botley School as both pass it.



All the way along the A34 are sites that would be impacted on by any widening of the road. Which land would they choose to build on? Perhaps a slalom effect as they pass though? In particular we have a bottleneck around the West Way area:

- Botley School
- Seacourt Tower and Retail Park
- The new Botley Centre redevelopment
- Several light industrial estates on the east side of the A34 (Tap Social and the Oxford Food Bank occupy units next to the A34)

Also Westminster Way is tight against the A34 for much of its' length and that acts as an important link road within the local road system, plus it is essential for the proper functioning of the new Botley Centre site ...



SITE BOUNDARY



PARESH COUNCIL OWNERCE

PRELIMINARY

BOTLEY DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

WESTWAY PLACE, BOTLEY

STEPLAN/ BLOCK P NORTH-HINKSEY PARISH COUNCIL

F-1205-L13



Marie Borra

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... and then we have the Commonwealth War Graves in Botley Cemetery.

This is a particularly sensitive site, but how to swerve past it without knocking out Westminster Way on the other side?



Moving further south there are houses directly accessed off the A34. If they were the only issue then it would simply be a matter of compulsory purchase and the 'problem' would disappear.

Further along we have the junction with the A34 at the bottom of Harcourt Hill. They couldn't knock that out completely or there would be no access to Harcourt Hill at all, which would pose a slight difficulty for the houses and Brookes Campus.

Finally at the southern end of the Parish in North Hinksey Village we have North Hinksey School and the Rugby Club grounds right alongside the A34.

That's quite a long list of complications!



Until the detailed routes are put forward for consultation we won't be able to comment fully on the specific local issues relevant to each one, but there are likely to be many whichever routes are proposed.

To keep up with the latest news on the Expressway sign up for notifications from Highways England, and watch out for updates on the North Hinksey Parish Council website at

www.northhinksey-pc.gov.uk