

Mr Kevin Sykes
Associate Director
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Stannard Way
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Bedford
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MK44 3RZ

2 New Cottages
Sheephurst Lane
Marden
Kent TN12 9NY

Dear Mr Sykes

Your ref 21 -0354

Planning Application at Land North of Little Cheveney Farn, Sheephurst Lane, Marden (ref 22/501335/FULL)

We have read your letter to Maidstone Borough Council ref the above application and ask that you reconsider the route for the Construction Management Plan for the above application.

With all due respect it would appear that you have not visited the site but merely conducted a desk exercise, using Google maps. A drive along your proposed route would very quickly show that the comments raised by Marden Parish Council are extremely valid and are of great concern to residents living along the proposed route. We note that you remain silent on the concern raised by MPC that Sheephurst Lane has a single track hump back bridge, that is deeply gouged by large vehicles grounding on the road surface, and is very narrow in places with virtually no passing places. There is a further single track bridge which has a blind corner to the north of it. The Lane is very popular with cyclists, heavily used by farm traffic, including extremely large tractors and trailers and combine harvesters are a common site in the summer months. The lane is on a bus route with at least 7 buses per day along the road. There are also many pedestrians who regularly walk part of the route, where there is nowhere to safely stand off the road when a large vehicle approaches. Please would you explain how your proposed route will protect pedestrian and cycle safety and how safe passing places can be provided for oncoming vehicles, where in some places it is not even wide enough for a car to pass a large vehicle.

You also mention that from your desk review of Google maps you note that there are tight bends on the route MPC has proposed. If you review both routes on Google maps and better still physically drive both proposed routes you will see that there are far more tight bends with very restricted visibility on your route than on MPC's proposed route. Google maps do not show you the reality of the situation, you need to physically see the challenges your proposed route brings.

We strongly suggest that there are very valid and serious safety concerns with your proposed route, which we will be raising with Kent Highways and Maidstone Borough Council Planning Department

Yours sincerely

Mr Graham and Mrs Kate Tippen

Cc Mr Guy Eckley
Statkraft
County Councillor Lottie Parfitt Reid
Borough Councillor Claudine Russell
Director of Kent Highways
Marden Parish Council
Maidstone Borough Council Planning Department