



CAM RIVER MATTERS

Preservation & Enhancement of the River Corridor as
Cambridge grows.



Abstract

*“Green corridors are generally poorly quantified by local authorities,
making their extent and condition difficult to assess.”*

Page 376. UK National Ecosystem Assessment Technical Report. 2011/2014

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Reflections

There are many Cambridge residents who care about the Cam. Some have “adopted” the adjacent green meadows of the river bank assuming riparian responsibilities in the apparent absence of concerned landowners. Some sections of the river in the city have required recent searches and agreements to define ownership.

From overcrowding to peaceful solitude, the river is an enigma. It is picture postcard perfect other than when craft congestion occurs or where 20th century bridges intrude and disturb the tranquility, with the constant throb of passing traffic.

The future threats are many as Cambridge strives to add more dwellings and infrastructure. The unique beauty of The Reach in particular could be compromised by the Chisholm Trail cycle/footbridge in 2016 followed by the inner- ring road completion planned for 2020 onwards.

The challenge is massive.

To define and deliver a unique proposition of sustainability and meet the aspirational needs of a growing City Region.

CAM RIVER MATTERS

“Cambridge started as a simple crossing over the river and the Cam has always been the life blood of our town and city. The more Cambridge grows, the more essential is our green corridor to our quality of life and this is recognised in the new Local Plan.

The community and the many organisations with responsibilities for the Cam need to work together to protect and enhance its habitat and green spaces, and tackle water quality. City Council staff and Councillors are determined to play a full part in this, as we have in initiatives over the past year.

Thank you to Mal Schofield and contributors for this thorough analysis of challenges and priorities for the Cam, and to many others for their wider contributions to protecting our river. We look forward to continuing to work with all who care for our precious Cam.”

Lewis Herbert. Leader of Cambridge City Council

The Cam is part of the soul of Cambridge. Whether walking, cycling, rowing, swimming, punting or simply whiling away time, it is easy to take the calm presence of the river for granted. This is a timely paper from Malcolm Schofield. It challenges the reader to recognize that the growth of Cambridge brings with it new possibilities but also threats that could change the river in ways that few have contemplated and none of us would choose. Against the backdrop of rapid growth, only well-informed analysis, consideration, consultation and participation will lead to intelligent and sensitive development of this precious resource. **Charles Cotton. Cambridge Phenomenon.**

Life on the river Cam induces an element of calm; it provides a therapy that is nature, an aura of contentment especially when wildlife graces us with their presence. I like to think of the river and commons as jewels in our crown, hence I treasure it and them so much. For the past decade I have lived with my family on a boat on the river Cam, I have developed a strong sense of belonging. I feel a certain responsibility and accountability for the river, maintaining its environs, protecting the wildlife and preserving its history and its heritage, for future generations to appreciate and enjoy. Understanding and addressing the needs of all who wish to share the river, so maintaining a community of cohesive groups, is crucial. I applaud and thank Mal Schofield for reminding us of the importance of charting the future growth of the Cam river valley.

Luther Phillips, residential boat owner on Stourbridge Common



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Middle river today

CAM RIVER MATTERS

Executive summary

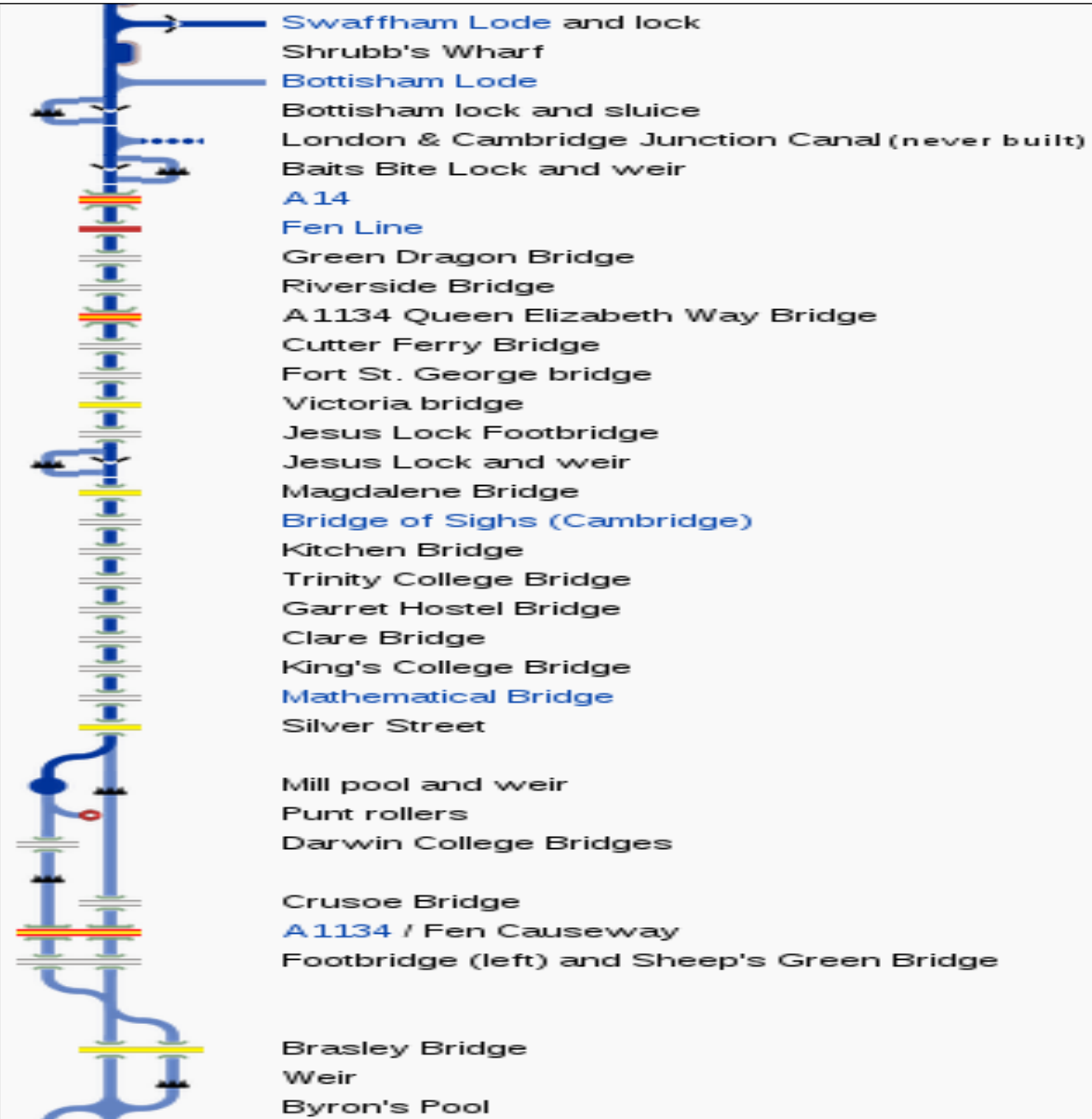
SWOT POSITION	PRESENT 2015	FUTURE. TO 2050
STRENGTHS	<p>The slow emergence of City and University Action Groups.</p> <p>Dedicated organisations – Conservators, CVF.</p> <p>New Wildlife habitats established</p> <p>The long established Cam green corridor</p> <p>The Southern fringe wetland corridor to Hobson’s Conduit.</p> <p>Cambridge Clean Up Campaigns</p> <p>The active “River Users Group”</p> <p>International attention & scrutiny</p> <p>A cadre of “bloody-minded” activists</p>	<p>The National Trust 100 year programme for the Lodes & Wicken Fen</p> <p>Cambridge University’s exemplar development standards</p>
WEAKNESSES	<p>Punt Operators Oligopoly</p> <p>Proliferation of Top Down “Partnerships” restating the strategic & operational problem issues.</p> <p>Diffused and confused riparian ownership/responsibility.</p> <p>Unregulated upper river.</p> <p>Water Pollution.</p> <p>Inadequate water treatment at Fen Ditton</p> <p>Local authority budget constraints on staffing/projects.</p> <p>An overused waterfront in the city.</p> <p>Inadequate facilities for visiting live on board leisure craft.</p>	<p>The Cambridge over dependency on the Cam as a focal point and university setting.</p> <p>Reinventing the issues and lack of direct links to definitive national policies.(Natural England)</p>
OPPORTUNITIES	<p>Cam Marina(s)</p> <p>Cambridge Sport Lakes International rowing/biking/triathlon</p> <p>CIL investments from new Housing in Cambridge North East</p> <p>Improved integration with cyclists and ramblers</p> <p>Licence fees applied to the upper river</p> <p>Chesterton New Station</p> <p>Accessible investment funds</p> <p>Jesus lock café/restaurant.</p>	<p>A North East Corridor Master Plan. Chesterton to Waterbeach.</p> <p>Cam Conservator initiatives in asset utilisation.</p> <p>Enhanced Flood Risk Management “making space for water”</p> <p>Continuous Water quality monitoring.</p>
THREATS	<p>Over use.</p> <p>Unauthorised Moorings.</p> <p>Unauthorised, unlicensed punt operators.</p> <p>Traffic growth & additional bridges.</p> <p>Fen Road lawlessness.</p> <p>Vain pursuit of unachievable and inappropriate sources for investment funding.</p>	<p>Lack of a Unitary Authority.</p> <p>Persistent lag in infrastructure investment.</p> <p>Chronic inadequate funding for maintenance and renewal</p> <p>Population growth.</p> <p>Acute recreational overcrowding.</p> <p>The narrow sighted application of the Green Belt policy.</p> <p>Endemic pollution from past and probable future mistakes e.g. Hauxton.</p>

Corridor Map

River Cam : south to north

Upper River – Byron's Pool to Mill pool and weir

Lower River – Jesus Lock and weir to [Swaffham Lode](#) and lock



Adapted from the Cambridge PPF website. January 2015

1. Introduction.

Cambridge, a “magical”, atmospheric yet growing city, and its river, are as one, a vibrant harmonic between nature and academic rigour. Other cities offer such contrasts but few manage to feature such an ageless balance of calm and dynamic change. Postcard images can still be captured from Byron’s Pool to Clayhithe. Much that is taken for granted is under pressure. Increasing **use** and the river’s ability to cater for many conflicting **user** needs to be monitored in detail. It is part protected by the flood plain that provides significant open areas of green pasture. Conditions require serious river management and community care. Over use and neglect could destroy the unique value of the river. It is a **bellwether** for the city and its future health. Whilst recent improvements are evident and detailed below, problems persist, most acute, some chronic. Their resolution is made complex by diffused responsibility and the absence of clear accountability for action. Too much is taken for granted.

The Cam River Corridor, vital to the City, can be sub divided conveniently into the following parts

- The sources and main tributaries
- Cambridge. The upper river, Byron’s Pool to Bishop’s Mill
- Cambridge. The backs to Jesus Green Lock
- The Fenland River. The lower rowing river to & through Fen Ditton
- The Fenland River. Baits Bite lock to Clayhithe

Use, users and conditions are factors can be addressed, for each of the five sectors. All can be defined in detail, opportunities and threats highlighted and actioned. There is however no single authority other than the Environment Agency that has a complete overview and interest. The EA context for the Cam River catchment is the Anglia River Basin District. Their summary statement follows

“The river basin district is the richest region in the UK for wetland wildlife. Freshwater habitats within the district are very important for wintering wildfowl and our reservoirs and watercourses support important fisheries. Most of the estuaries and coast of the region are internationally designated. The Wash is a vital area for overwintering birds and has been designated as a European Marine Site. Approximately 80% of England’s resource of lowland fen occurs here. However, less than 1% of the original wetland habitat now remains. With our partners, we are seeking to restore sustainable wetlands and are reconnecting habitats across the Fens to benefit people, our natural and historic heritage and the rural economy. Other internationally important fens occur in the heads of valleys, fed by groundwater springs. Rich

mixes of other habitats are found in the region, including swamp, reed beds and carr woodland. Water management is one of the biggest challenges facing the river basin district. Parts of the district are relatively dry, receiving only two-thirds of the UK's average rainfall. Many towns and cities in the river basin district will experience growth, adding further pressure on water resources in terms of treatment, supplies and ensuring environmental quality. Some of the most important wildlife sites depend on a good supply of water and it is vitally important there is also enough water available for public water supplies, agriculture and industry. The river basin district faces many environmental challenges and opportunities. Many towns in the river basin district will experience growth, adding further pressure on our water resources in terms of treatment, supplies and ensuring environmental quality. The changing climate is increasing river water temperatures, rainfall intensity and peak river flows (<http://www.lwec.org.uk/resources/report-cards/water>). Predicted changes in the weather patterns, due to climate change, will create significant challenges in the river basin district. A general shift towards higher temperatures, particularly in the summer and more extremes (in both frequency and magnitude) of floods, droughts and heat waves are anticipated. This may make it harder and more costly to maintain the quality of the water environment across the river basin district." * Water for Life & Livelihoods EA 2014

In simple terms the River Cam is a shared and valued asset, with ambiguities in terms of those responsible and accountable for its health and wellbeing. City growth has a symbiotic relationship with river conditions and quality. The last half century surge in the economic activity of the City Region and the unique "Cambridge Phenomenon", threatens to degrade the river from a precious asset to, at worst, an embarrassing liability. The danger signals already exist. Conflict in use and congestion hot spots apply equally to the river and the City's centre streets and arterial roads. (<http://www.cambridgeahead.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/Cambridge-Ahead-QoL-Survey-Summer-2014.pdf>). Unacceptable levels of water pollution led to the cancellation of a major sporting event (triathlon) at Jesus Green in September 2014. That single event represents a wakeup call, but without explicit accountability will most certainly not be addressed as a matter of some concern. There continues to be litter everywhere, an expensive and permanent issue.

There have been any attempts at a top down approach to problem solving. The latest contribution from Cambridge PPF summarises the concerns with style. (http://www.cambridgeppf.org/river/river_actions_2.10.14.pdf). The failing, as with many other general overviews, is that the nature of, and accountability for, problem prevention and resolution are not addressed. The river deserves a workable process of observation, care and improvement, initiated and monitored locally. As Cambridge continues to grow exceptionally, the river corridor must be earmarked for major investment projects aimed to preserve, protect

and enhance its green corridor status. (<http://www.economist.com/news/leaders/21635486-emerging-world-becoming-suburban-its-leaders-should-welcome-avoid-wests>)

This paper explores the reasons for the failure so far to resolve current and serious issues concerning the river. Further City Region growth is considered in terms of its impact on the river and an outline strategic statement of intent addresses future threats & opportunities.

2. Use and users



- i. **Rambling/walking/jogging.** Tow paths in particular to Clayhithe and south through from Byron's Pool to Hauxton. Grantchester Meadows is a unique weekend walk. Jogging everywhere every hour.
- ii. **Cycling** Increasing demand for dedicated facilities as many routes form critical parts of the cross city network.
- iii. **Private Punts/Canoes** Almost exclusively to the upper river with access south to Hauxton for canoes (5 miles)
- iv. **Canoes/Punts for hire** at authorised punt stations + unauthorised organised small operators in the City (presently Garrett Hostel Bridge)
- v. **Live on Boarders** Authorised at Jesus Lock, Midsummer Common and Stourbridge Common. Unauthorised at Riverside.
- vi. **Boaters Resident & Visiting** Actively discouraged by limited moorings & poor facilities
- vii. **University/College Rowing** Extensive on the Lower River occasionally to Clayhithe. University 8 at Ely.
- viii. **City Club Rowing/CRA** Very active, growing rapidly with 3000 club members.
- ix. **Swimming.** Swimming all the year around at the Club on the upper river. Summer swimming from Grantchester Meadows. Adjacent to the river. Jesus Green Pool
- x. **Fishing** Upper & lower rivers in season

3. Accountable authorities & pressure groups.

See Appendix 1; the complexity of “responsibilities” and interests.

The exchanges below illustrate the essential level of trust in a top down approach to matters concerning the river and the many interest groups.

“I agree that they are grinding their own axe - and know too well, from my many meetings, how ignorant and technically unqualified they were to have taken this on - (although their standing opens doors more easily than we could have done) and how they manoeuvred to marginalize--- - looking after the river, the riverside commons, ditches and streams should be primarily a task for the local authorities - and saddened by this government (and to a lesser extent the previous one) has systematically weakened and dismantled bits of local government so that we spend time, waste time, bidding for pots of money that bypass them.”

“The most impressive river partnerships are those where all interested parties manage to get together and work towards a common goal, including grassroots organisations and local people as well as statutory bodies and NGOs. Local people and groups are vital as they have detailed local knowledge and are able to help make things happen on the ground. Larger organisations which can take a wider view can help find resources, enable communication between local groups, and help projects fit into a coherent whole.”

“I just thought to mention the Strategy as we are now being stretched by the Cam Ouse Partnership and Cambridgeshire Acre wanting to have their finger in the pie. We are in the process to realign things and hopefully we will be successful as you know this project is very close to my heart, too! I agree that an approach including "down to up" approach is very much needed, too. By bringing together a range of stakeholder groups we hope to achieve this, creating a strategy and a plan of action that will feed into the local planning process and maximise the use of this important resource for the benefit of everyone that lives, works and visits the city – now and in the future.”

There are adequate pressure groups to hold those major riparian land owners to account. Cam Conservators, Cam Valley Forum, (CVF) the River Users Group and the many Residents Societies/“Friends of” are collectively capable of river monitoring. Of these organisations, **CVF is uniquely placed to coordinate efforts in the preservation and enhancement of the Cam river basin.**

4. Issue identification & resolution

Cambridge exerts unique pressures on its river corridor and shares many common concerns with rivers and canals throughout England & Wales. (5000km & over 30,000 boats see The Economist December 20th 2014 “Crowded Waters”) This paper differentiates in favour of those issues unique to Cambridge and is less concerned with the monitoring and resolution of such serious national issues as “flooding”, “invasive species” or “abstraction”. It does therefore concern itself about the pressures arising from City Region economic growth, river congestion and the provision of supporting and additional open water for sport and leisure. That vital extra is closely allied with the nature of the Cambridge green belt and the essential growth and development of an alternative green corridor based upon the Cam from the confluence of its tributaries (10 miles east & south of Byron’s Pool) to and including Waterbeach with inclusion of the Lodes. As such water flows and water pollution do feature as critical issues. Most problems however arise from over use and overcrowding, leading to accidents, conflict and pollution. The list below represents the current complexity of acute issues to be resolved. Each is classified by a provisional degree of causal difficulty 1-10. Some have become intractable dilemmas require a new strategic context as the only way to find a long term resolution. But most simply need better local surveillance and early intervention (JDI, Just Do It). The list is not complete and hopefully will be added to, objectively quantified and consolidated following responses to this draft.

- i. Riverside Moorings/ Marina provision (10)
- ii. Unauthorised punting (7)
- iii. Punting monopoly (6)
- iv. Water pollution by grazing cows (5)
- v. Middle river punt congestion(6)
- vi. Rowing pressures lower river (7)
- vii. Wide berth punts – upper river(3)
- viii. No registration fees upper river (2)
- ix. Proposed bridges across the Reach (7)
- x. Litter accumulation lower river (4)
- xi. Litter accumulation upper river (2)
- xii. River width & overhangs (1)
- xiii. Punt destruction of upper river spawning beds at Grantchester (6)
- xiv. Sewage smells and leakages at Grassy Corner(4)
- xv. Extended wild life havens and habitat (3)
- xvi. River mooring facilities for visitors. (4)

5. Conditions in the early 21st century



The Cam River basin, particularly the tributaries, is better ecologically in some respects

- **Extensive wetland provision** (Byron's Pool, Trumpington Farms Estate, Paradise nature reserve, Logan's Meadow nature reserve, Stourbridge Common, Southern Fringe to Hobson's Conduit

- **Emergence of action groups and conscience pricking events** – Cambridge Clean Up, volunteer planting," Friends of ---"

The City centre and Trumpington/Newnham/Chesterton suburbs have developed substantially taking advantage of the river for recreation and as a suitable route by which to travel. This cycle/ pedestrian corridor is however interrupted for a critical half mile stretch by the "backs" and the uniqueness of the river as it flows through College gardens. This exclusivity to College members of the banks is in marked contrast to the river itself – canalised and congested by punts and in particular by the unrestricted number of wide birth chauffeur punts that turn a picture perfect environment into a fun & frolic for tourists. There has been a marked deterioration in quality and the transition of an experience from memorable to forgettable.

The lower river also loses its charm through overcrowding from moorings and rowing. The finite capacity from Jesus Lock to Baits Bite Lock has to accommodate over 100 moored craft and nearly 5000 registered rowers. Local residents can also claim their rights to privacy. The position is most acute along the "Riverside" stretch where the refurbished clean condition of one part, contrasts markedly with the encampment of poor quality boats, associated vans and bric-a-brac at the other. This location is all the more problematic in that it provides needed shelter for those on the bottom rung of the housing ladder. This river stretch does however benefit from a tow path to the north east and common land to the south east. After Fen Ditton village the river once again becomes more natural in setting and ecology.

6. Future threats & water space opportunities



The most serious threat arises directly from the nature of Cambridge as an intellectual powerhouse where debate is often preferable to decision. The tendency towards a top down approach to “state of the nation” concerns simply encourages the proliferation of analysis at the expense of action. Appendix 1 illustrates the endemic danger of reiteration and indecision. Revisiting the problem is easier than seeking and implementing a solution. The River Cam is just one recipient of well-meaning intentions. Cambridge PPF, a worthy and long standing observer of the Cambridge condition voice similar concerns about the green belt, the market square and city centre pollution. So far there has been a lack of delineation between England’s waterway common concerns and those issues unique to the Cam. Focus, in both analysis and action should be the starting point for Cam specific medium/ long term investment programmes. The strategic emphasis has to be on capacity planning and as such has the same need as other major infrastructure pressures – e.g. dedicated cycle ways, roads, city centre, conference/concert facilities, and trams/buses.

The pressing challenge will be centred upon the new Chesterton/Science Park station and the river corridor to Waterbeach. By 2050 the addition of some 50,000 dwellings in this North East quarter is proposed. The corridor has to be preserved and enhanced as an unrivalled waterscape. That can only be achieved through the provision of substantial extra open water space and adjacent wildlife wetland reserves. Where development is approved high density housing per hectare is the quid pro quo. The National Trust, Cambridge Sport Lakes, Cam Conservators, Cambridge City Council, South Cambridgeshire District Council and the County Council should recognise the need now and be agreed upon the preparation of a **Master Plan Cam Corridor – North East**, to be commissioned and completed before 2020. One welcome breakthrough would be the provision of a marina adjacent to the lower river and capable of accommodating as many craft as are moored along the city banks. (+/- 80). Appendix 2 provides

an outline for a marina. Its location and size need to be considered in context and for viability could be commercially incorporated in a comprehensive residential development at the Local Plan designated site (RM1). The University Plan for Cambridge North West is an exemplar for such a comprehensive integrated development. See also

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/greener-transport-network-to-provide-highways-for-wildlife>

There is an intent to establish an orbital ring road for the City, the most serious implication of which is the construction of a bus guide way bridge. To complicate the issue is the earlier expressed need for a cycle/pedestrian bridge over the Cam at the present rail bridge, allowing access from the east to the new rail station from 2016 onwards. (The Chisholm Trail). Richard Moseley and the “CamToo” proposition offers an alternative solution to this challenging problem.

To the south, the Cam Corridor simply needs protection from over development, something likely to be at the forefront of village protest initiatives. It may be possible to acquire more private land for public accessibility. Concessions in terms of reciprocated planning permissions are therefore likely. City Centre development rests almost entirely with the City Council to plan and manage effectively, supported by the Cam Conservators in terms of regulation and maintenance of quality standards.

The most crucial role of catalyst, as already stated, lies with the Cam Valley Forum. They alone can ensure that the polarity of thought and action is from grassroots upwards. By establishing a vital network of action groups, monitoring conditions and resolving problems as they arise. The River is then in good and caring hands. This process remains vulnerable to the good intentions of the distant authorities that rush into solutions often at cost, without even a basic understanding of the problem. For a good example but nevertheless comprehensive 2014 take on the Cambridge Quality of Life (See <http://www.cambridgeahead.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/Cambridge-Ahead-Quality-of-Life-survey-Press-Release-1-Oct-2014.pdf>). The overwhelming, if not common problem, **Congestion**, is confirmed. The way forward still lacks leadership and ambitious strategic intervention.

7. CONCLUSION

This paper aimed to be succinct and specific. It pulls no punches on the current threats relating to the Cam River Corridor. Over use and overcrowding are the common factors. A positive way forward into action is proposed, through better understanding, less talk, more action and grass roots involvement. There is an equal need to think boldly in terms of infrastructure investment that defines the City's further expansion. Cambridge benefited from such visionary planning in the 18th century with new formal spaces complementing the existing ecology of the river valley. The basic topography was in place 700 years ago (see Appendix 3). A disproportionate increase now in the provision of open accessible land and water is the need developed as a clear proposition for the early 21st century. Definition as a substantial south west/north east river based green corridor rather than the present growth constricting green belt, has to be the essential prerequisite.

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Our view on a return to rowing in 2006



**Reflection:
March
2016**



1st Draft 31st December 2014. Cam Conservator & Founder member of the CVF. 2nd Draft 14th January 2015. Published 22nd January 2015. Released February 1st 2015. Update March 2016

Appendix 1 “Too Many Cooks”?

See the listed contributors to the “Cambridgeshire Green Infrastructure Strategy 2011- The Green Infrastructure Forum”. 25 members of which 10 formed a “Project Group” managing the review & report. Those in red below were included

1 **The Environment Agency's** stated purpose is, "to protect or enhance the environment, taken as a whole" *so as to promote "the objective of achieving sustainable development" (taken from the Environment Act 1995, section 4). Protection of the environment relates to threats such as flood and pollution. The vision of the Agency is of "a rich, healthy and diverse environment for present and future generations".*

2 **Cam Conservancy**. The Conservators mission is to maintain the river between the Mill Pit & Bottisham Lock in a good navigable condition; strike a balance between the needs of all river users & riverside landowners & residents; manage the river in a manner sensitive to environmental interests. Also a riparian landowner

3 **Local Authorities** – Greater Cambridge, Greater Peterborough Enterprise Partnership (LEP) **Cambridgeshire County Council, Cambridge City Council, South Cambridgeshire District Council.** Parish Councils – Grantchester, Fen Ditton, Horningsea (the major riparian landowners)

4 **Catchment Area Groups**. Cam and Ely Ouse. **The Rivers Trust** and **Anglian Water**. Old Bedford/Middle level. *“The Rivers Trust movement is a bottom up grassroots development, initiated by a number of different community groups from around the country working independently to form Trusts. The formation of RT is simply a natural response to mature trusts wishing to share information and work more closely together to help others and provide synergy.”*

5 **Funded corporate pressure groups**. **Cambridge Past, Present & Future**. Cambridge Network. Cambridge Ahead. Collusion. Cambridgeshire ACRE. Cam Catchment Partnership. Cam & Ely Ouse Catchment Partnership.

6 **Cam Valley Forum** and other volunteer local action groups. “Friends of --- in particular. Also University based Volunteer groups e.g. <http://www.cambridgehub.org/volunteer-for-cambridge> & <https://adragonsbestfriend.wordpress.com/2014/12/03/cambridge-hub-turning-ideas-into-actions/> & <http://www.cambridgeconservationforum.org.uk>

7 **Riparian landowners** (other) the Colleges & the Pemberton Trust.

8 **Major users** e.g. Scudamore’s Punt Hire. CRA, Canoe Club

Appendix 2 Cam Marina Outline

Unlike other East Anglia towns/cities, there is no longer a marina within walking distance of the city centre. Moorings are provided in 3 locations with a fourth – Riverside, presenting problems through unauthorized moorings. Both local authorities and the County Council have recognized the need for a residential – “live on board” facility but failed in 3 iterations of the respective local plans to convert intent into action. (See Cambridge City Council Local Plan 2014 Policy 54 Residential Moorings. Site RM1 is allocated at Fen Road and shown on the policies map https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/public/ldf/draft_submission)

Unauthorized moorings represent a serious long standing issue for the City together with the condition of a few authorized boats at Jesus Lock in particular. The City Council is the riparian owner of the river bank although that responsibility for Riverside has only recently been accepted. Cam Conservators act as agents for the city in monitoring all moorings. In summary the position is unsatisfactory and sends the wrong messages to residents and visitors. The use of the river for rowing in particular is adversely affected along the full stretch from Midsummer Common to Stourbridge Common.

The development of the Cambridge Northern Fringe East has a relevance because of the construction of a main line station in East Chesterton. The proposed footprint extends to the A14 and to Fen Road. It does not but should cover the corridor between the river and Fen Road i.e. embracing Cam Conservator land and the site RM1. http://democracy.cambridge.gov.uk/documents/s26773/CNFE_AAP_Final%2020%2010%2014.pdf

There are other alternative sites for moorings that may be preferred or added to a shopping list for feasibility studies.

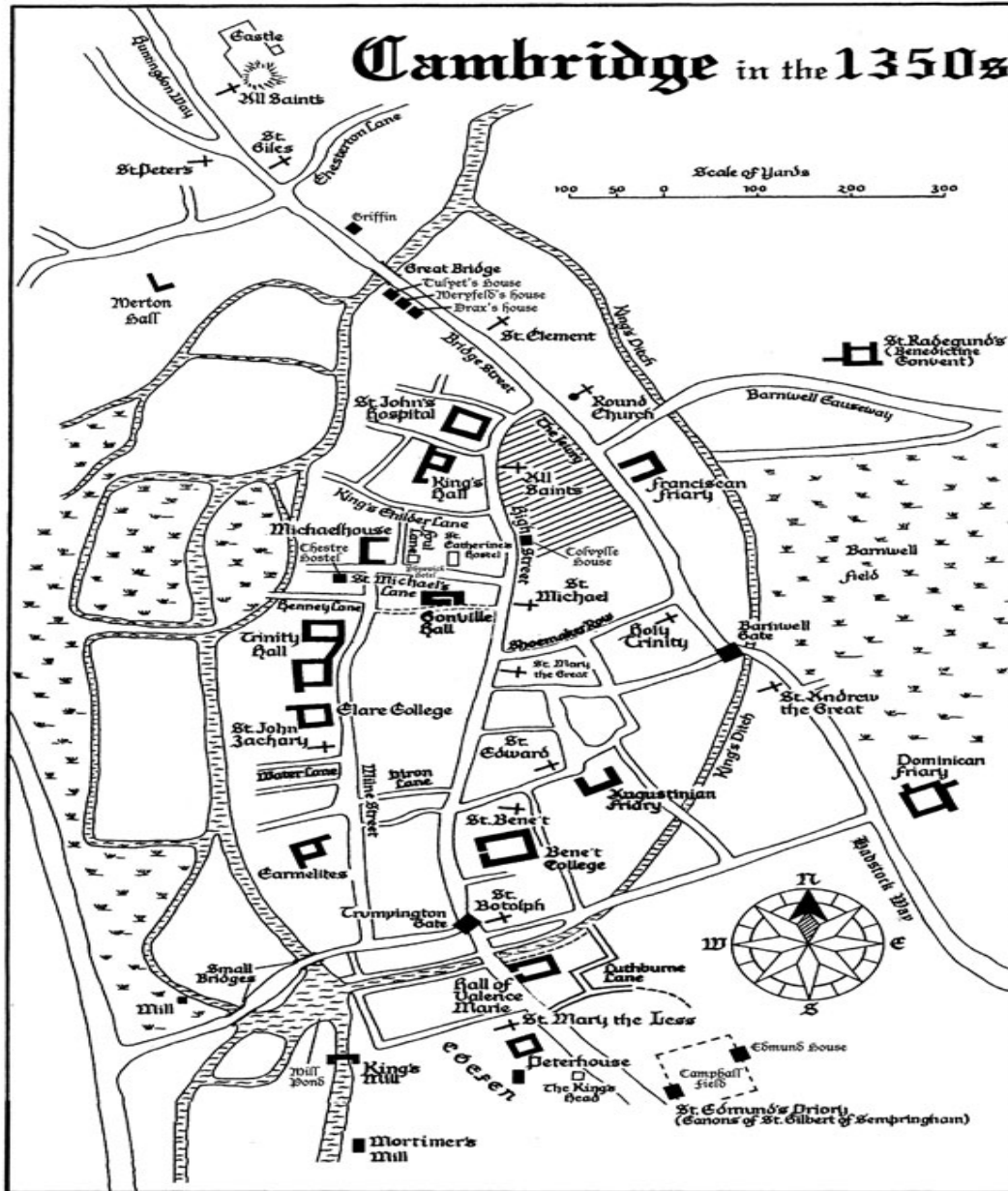
The economics of residential moorings depend upon the facilities provided and the viability of schemes from delivering basic moorings to a combination of a marina and residential development. At this stage it would be prudent and helpful to consider all possible options, some of which could well meet some of the urgent needs of the three local authorities challenged by the dynamic nature of the City Region & its 21st century growth phenomenon.

Expertise in marina development exists and in particular in the Netherlands. There is an Inland Marina Development Guide. <https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/new-marinas-unit> with some impressive schemes that Cambridge could support as a viable and valued contribution to housing & the quality of life. See also <https://www.google.co.uk/search?q=Dutch+residential+marinas> & <https://www.flickr.com/photos/nwez/sets/72157640505139933/>

Mal Schofield 17th December 2014

This initiative was on the Cam Conservators Agenda 2015.

Appendix 3 Middle river in the 14th Century



See also. <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/cambs/vol3/pp86-101>

Reflection: Taking Leave of Cambridge Again. By Xu Zhimo.

Softly I am leaving,
Just as softly as I came;
I softly wave goodbye
To the clouds in the western sky.

The golden willows by the riverside
Are young brides in the setting sun;
Their glittering reflections on the shimmering river
Keep undulating in my heart.

The green tape grass rooted in the soft mud
Sways leisurely in the water;
I am willing to be such a waterweed
In the gentle flow of the River Cam.

That pool in the shade of elm trees
Holds not clear spring water, but a rainbow
Crumpled in the midst of duckweeds,
Where rainbow-like dreams settle.

To seek a dream? Go punting with a long pole,
Upstream to where green grass is greener,
With the punt laden with starlight,
And sing out loud in its radiance.

Yet now I cannot sing out loud,
Peace is my farewell music;
Even crickets are now silent for me,
For Cambridge this evening is silent.

Quietly I am leaving,
Just as quietly as I came;
Gently waving my sleeve,
I am not taking away a single cloud.
(6 November 1928)

