

25th May 2016

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Mr Tobbell
Chairman
Finchingfield Parish Council
72 St. Edmunds Fields
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Essex
CM6 2AN

Lambert Smith Hampton
Greenwood House
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Chelmsford
CM2 0PP

Your Ref:
Our Ref: EC506566/31810/1EV/GC

Recorded Delivery

Dear Mr Tobbell

Finchingfield Bridge, Finchingfield, Essex – ECC Bridge No. 26

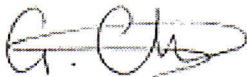
I write regarding our recent correspondence on the acquisition of land owned by your Parish Council for proposed works to the road bridge in Finchingfield.

I have spoken with my client about the details of the scheme, and it is clear that there are a number of significant challenges with regard to statutory process, which will need to be overcome in order to deliver the proposed improvements.

In order to move the scheme forward, I would like to progress negotiations to purchase the small areas of land within the Parish Council's ownership shown on the attached plan. I would request that you discuss this matter with your Councillors and others as necessary, for you to have a mandate to enter into negotiations with my company, Lambert Smith Hampton as retained agents for Essex County Council, over the proposed land purchase.

When land is required for highways improvements, Essex County Council will always seek to negotiate a purchase with the owner in the first instance. This is particularly the case when the land concerned is owned by other Councils and public sector organisations. It is always the intention to negotiate an agreement without using the statutory powers available and I remain confident that we can establish a constructive dialogue in this instance to reach an acceptable outcome.

Yours Sincerely



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Enc. Drawing No. BR0026-00-0301 (B) and BR0026-00-0302