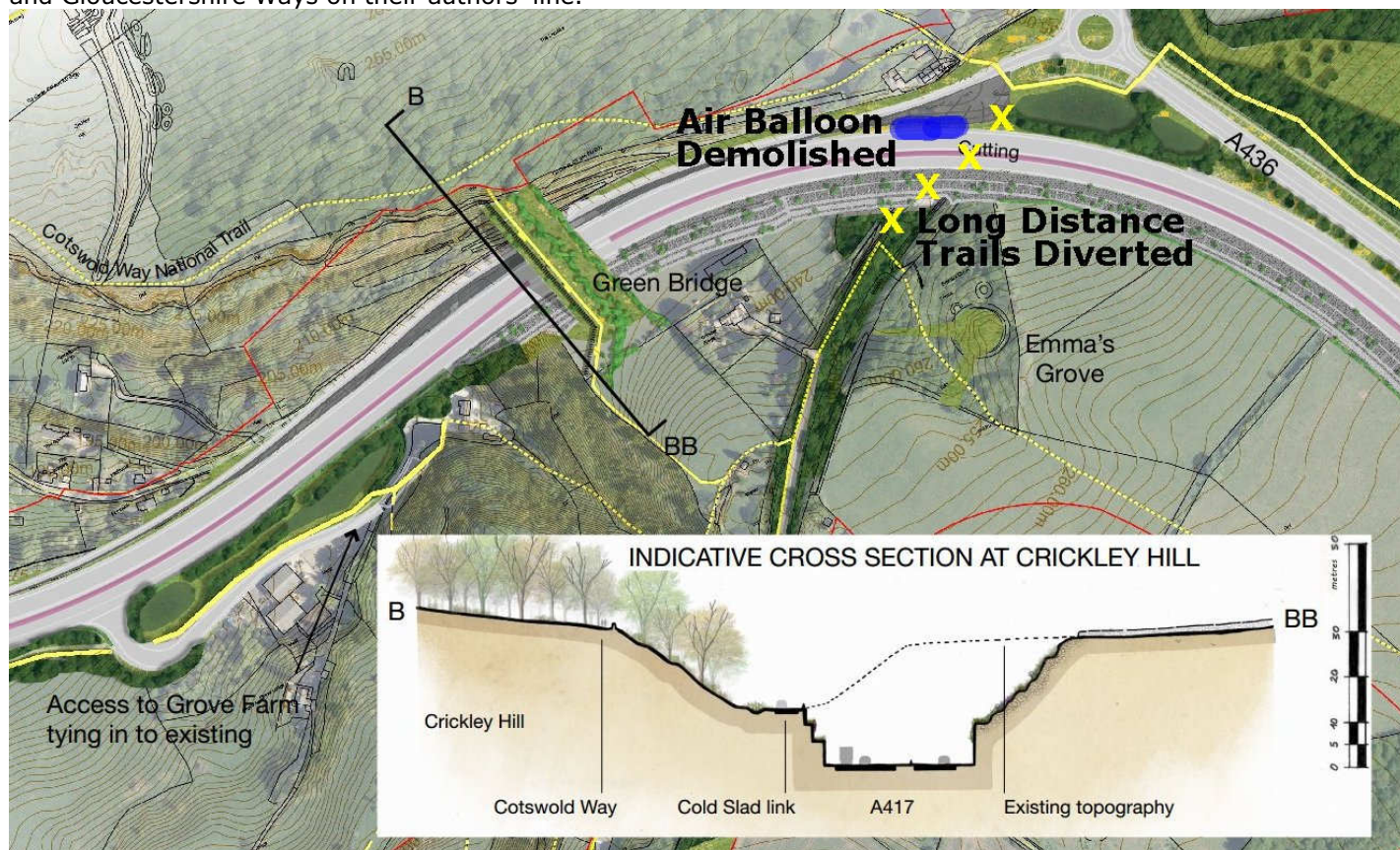


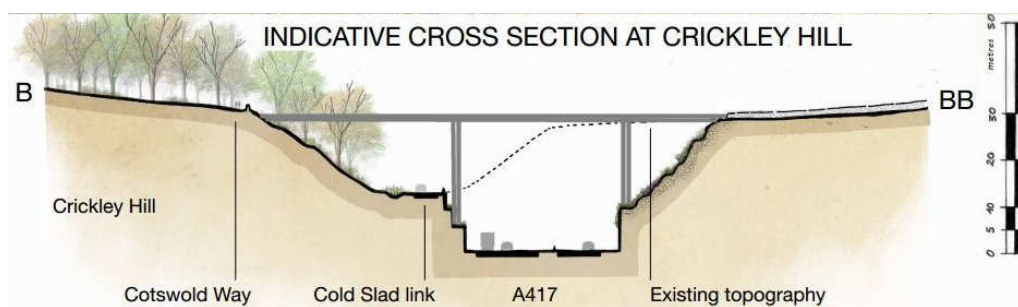
2. Do you have any comments on our proposed green bridge?

As seen in section 1, the wildlife bridge is quite high up and lands within the Crickley Hill SSSI. It could be relocated for a better fit within the landscape either to one side or the other of the SSSI or at a different elevation. Below is a cross section view. The depth of the new A417 cutting is almost 30 metres below current ground level. Further along the Air Balloon Inn is proposed to be demolished and bridleways footpaths etc diverted back across what was supposed to be the Wildlife Green Bridge. Keeping a bridge at the Air Balloon site would keep the Cotswold and Gloucestershire Ways on their authors' line.



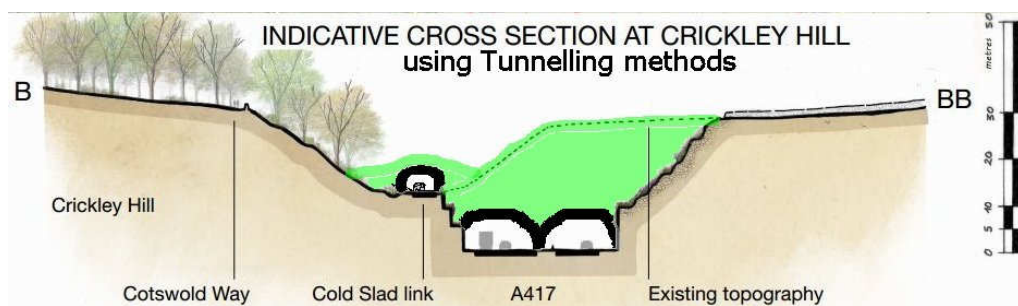
Concrete Bridge above

This image illustrates the height of the proposed concrete bridge. A layer of vegetation on the top allows it to be referred to as a Green Bridge.



Green Flanked Bridge

Green 'flanked' bridges could be installed instead. A standard inverted U bridge as used in the Dorset AONB could cover the minor Cold Slad link road (the current A417). A tunnelling method similar to Hindhead could be used for the new A417 to retain the existing topography.



Landscape note

The currently proposed “green” bridge appears to be concrete with grass on a flat surface, compared to other green bridges being constructed countrywide on current road projects (see note on Green bridges and note on A27)
Can it really be said to be a good fit within the landscape of the Cotswolds AONB?

It would be preferable for a green bridge if suitably located to have green flanks and mixed native vegetation along the sides rather than concrete pillars.

Further green bridges are proposed in this response to ensure that footpaths are retained in their current location and crossings are retained. The planting of native wildflower grassland areas and hedges along bridges would contribute to the landscape-led theme of this project.