



**CYCLIST-FRIENDLY?** Roundabout could be redesigned

Picture: David Fleming Order No.\*217691

## Call to do more for cyclists

TRANSPORT planners considering the future of two key Oxford roads have been urged to do more to improve safety for cyclists and pedestrians.

Residents have called for better cycling provision, including separate bus and cycle lanes, and pedestrian crossings on stretches of the Woodstock and Banbury roads in north Oxford.

They spoke out following an exhibition by Oxfordshire County Council and design company Halcrow suggesting a range of changes aimed at improving transport provision in the area.

Under the plans, the busy Cutteslowe Roundabout, linking Banbury Road with the A40 dual carriageway, could be replaced

with a traffic light "interchange".

Another option is leaving the roundabout as it is and putting in traffic lights on roads approaching it.

In their report, transport planners say the roundabout is prone to congestion and both options could improve bus journey times and safety for pedestrians and cyclists wanting to cross the roundabout.

Other suggestions include changing the direction of bus lanes in Woodstock and Banbury roads or extending bus lanes in areas where none presently exist.

Planners say this would improve bus journey times — but would mean cycle tracks would have to be removed, forcing

cyclists to share a lane with buses.

Edwina Harland, 59, of Polstead Road, said: "I'm very happy they're thinking about improving the roads, but really feel there should be better provisions for cyclists and pedestrians.

"More pedestrian crossings would definitely be good, but we need extended cycle lanes. The idea of mixing bus and cycle lanes is quite frightening."

Retired solicitor Roland Jesseter, 65, of Banbury Road, who both cycles and drives, said: "I'm all for improving the bus routes into Oxford to encourage more people to use public transport, but cyclists must not be forgotten."