



### Response to letter in Bradford Telegraph & Argus (27th February 2014)

Mr Rhodes is entirely wrong in supposing that the Queensbury Tunnel campaign is asking Bradford Council to spend millions ('Cycle Surprise' 27th Feb). Repairs to the tunnel are essential to protect properties above the tunnel, particularly in the vicinities of the ventilation shafts that are at risk of collapse. Responsibility for the repairs lies with the Highways Agency, not Bradford MDC. One option is to fill the shafts by creating boxed concrete pillars allowing reduced width passageway for cyclists and walkers on either side. A further option is to insert concrete sleeves to maintain a near full-width through route. The cheapest option is to fill the shafts with vast amounts of concrete thereby destroying the tunnel passageway forever. This cheapest option will cost millions. Does Mr Rhodes really want millions of public money to be spent on destroying a magnificent piece of Yorkshire's industrial heritage whose preservation has the potential to boost our local economy? Work is scheduled to begin later this year. This opportunity for Bradford and Halifax is too good to miss. We only have to look at the success of the TwoTunnels project at Bath to know that our own tunnel vision is worth every penny.

Issued 28th February 2014