

**IN PARLIAMENT  
HOUSE OF COMMONS  
SESSION 2005-06**

**CROSSRAIL BILL**

Against - on Merits - Praying to be heard by Counsel,&c.

To the Honourable the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in Parliament assembled.

**THE HUMBLE PETITION OF THAMES REACH RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION**

SHEWETH as follows:

- 1. A Bill (herein referred to as "the bill") has been introduced and is now pending in your honourable House intituled "A bill to make provision for a railway transport system running from Maidenhead, in the County of Berkshire, and Heathrow Airport, in the London Borough of Hillingdon, through central London to Shenfield, in the County of Essex, and Abbey Wood, in the London Borough of Greenwich; and for connected purposes.

The bill is presented by Mr Secretary Darling supported by The Prime Minister, Mr Secretary Prescott, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Secretary Margaret Beckett, Ms Secretary Hewitt, Secretary Tessa Jowell, Mr Peter Hain and Mr Tony McNulty.

- 3. Objection is made to Clause 5 and Schedule 5 - Land - Temporary Possession and Use
- 4. Your Petitioner is Thames Reach Residents Association, established in 1973, which represents residents whose properties are very close to Guards Club Park and those also on Oldacres, the road which will be used by contractors vehicles.
- 5. Your Petitioners and their rights and interests are injuriously affected by the Bill, to which your Petitioners object for reasons amongst other, hereinafter appearing.
- 6. The Petitioner objects to the Bill because more than half of the park called "Guards Club Park", bordered by residents' houses will be temporarily taken over as a storage depot and site office by contractors. A narrow road which serves only residents' houses, called Oldacres, will be used for lorry access to the Park.
- 7. Guards Club Park is a very small and beautiful public Park beside the river Thames and next to the Brunel Railway Bridge. It is an important amenity for local residents and all residents and visitors to Maidenhead,; it is a designated conservation area and there are covenants on the park for it to be only for the use of the public. Local children regularly play in the Park and families picnic there too. The proposed use of the site by Crossrail will make the Park into an unpleasant industrial area for, at best nine months and at worst, for years.
- 8. Oldacres is a narrow road through an estate of family houses where children play outside their homes. Using it as access for contractor traffic to transport scaffolding and equipment will seriously impact on the residents of the road.

9. We submit that Crossrail should be able to find an alternative site to use as a storage depot and site office which does not impinge on the rights and interests of this residential area. Likewise Crossrail should be required to find alternative ways to transport equipment such as river or rail. For the foregoing and connected reasons your Petitioner respectfully submits that, unless the Bill is amended as proposed above, clause 5 and Schedule 5, so far affecting your Petitioner, should not be allowed to pass into law.

YOUR PETITIONERS therefore humbly pray your Honourable House that the Bill may not be allowed to pass into law as it now stands and that they may be heard by their Counsel, Agents and witnesses in support of the allegations of this Petition against so much of the Bill as affects the property, rights and interests of your Petitioners and in support of such other clauses and provisions as may be necessary or expedient for their protection, or that such other relief may be given to your Petitioner in the premises as your Honourable House shall deem meet.

AND your Petitioners will ever pray, &c.