

HOUSE OF COMMONS
SESSION 2005-06

CROSSRAIL

PETITION
of

Mr.PETER BEST (MA CANTAB) & Mrs MARJORIE BEST_____

AGAINST,
BY COUNSEL, &c.

HOUSE OF COMMONS
SESSION 2005-06

CROSSRAIL

PETITION

Against the Bill – 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 MR.P.BEST.MA.(CANTAB.) & MRS.M.BEST

SHEWETH as follows:-

1. A Bill (hereinafter called "the Bill") has been introduced into and is now pending in your honourable House entitled "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".
2. Clauses 1 to 20 set out the Bill's objectives in relation to the construction and operation of the railway transport system

mentioned in paragraph 1 above. They include provision for compulsory acquisition, planning permission, heritage issues, trees and noise. Clauses 21 to 44 of the Bill establish a regulatory regime for the railway transport system and clauses 45 to 59 of the Bill deal with miscellaneous and general provisions.

3. The works proposed to be authorised by the Bill are specified in Schedule 1 to the Bill and the scheduled works are defined in the Bill as the works specified in Schedule 1 to the Bill which are works authorised to be constructed by the nominated undertaker (defined in the Bill and hereinafter referred to as "the nominated undertaker").
4. Your Petitioners are Mr.P.Best & Mrs.M.Best of 73 Friars Avenue which is a semi-detached house occupied by the above two elderly people.
5. Your Petitioners house backs onto the site of the proposed works at Shenfield Station. According to the Environmental Statement deposited with the Bill, residents of Friars Avenue will be significantly affected by noise and visual impact. Your petitioners particularly on account of their age ie 80 years and 77years will be so affected .
6. Your Petitioners rights interests and property will be injuriously affected by the proposals in the bill to which your Petitioners object, for the reasons,amongst others,hereinafter appearing .
7. Due to their age the Petitioners will find the significant noise impact during the very long period of construction a very considerable strain which may seriously affect their health and welfare
8. Your Petitioners use of their garden at the rear of the house for horticulture and relaxation during daylight hours when the weather permits will be severely affected by the noise of construction and the necessary blasts from the horns of

passing trains to warn the construction workers.

9. Your Petitioners rely heavily on the shops in Shenfield and will be distressed and inconvenienced by the inevitable increase in congestion and also the noise, dust and movement of heavy vehicles and equipment in Shenfield and the lower end of Friars Avenue that they will have to traverse to reach the shopping area.
10. Your Petitioners make daily use of the Shenfield Library to read the newspapers and magazines and as a place of peace and relaxation.. The library is adjacent to the construction site and will cease to be a quiet haven.
11. Should the noise, disruption, etc over the long period of construction (which may even be longer than initially planned), begin to have a serious adverse affect on your Petitioners health and well being and they find it necessary to move: they will have difficulty in selling their house during this period and then only at a lower than normal market price. There is already evidence of this blight on houses in the area currently up for sale
12. Your Petitioner therefore believes that the Promoters should make alternative arrangements other than the use of the car parks in Friars Avenue and Hunter Avenue during the period of construction such as to minimise the congestion and disruption in the Shenfield shopping area and its environs.
13. The Petitioner accepts the benefits of being able to cross London from East to West by train with the minimum inconvenience but as there is already an excellent Metro service through Shenfield and also a fast train service from Colchester, Ipswich, Norwich, etc that stop at Stratford ; there seems to be little advantage in view of the very significant disruption to Shenfield and the very significant cost , of starting the Crossrail service at Shenfield rather than at Stratford. Yor Petitioners believe that the

Promoters should give serious consideration to this option

14. There are other clauses and provisions in the Bill which, if passed into law as they now stand, will prejudicially affect the rights and interest of your Petitioners and other clauses and provisions necessary for their protection and benefit are omitted therefrom.

YOUR PETITIONER[S]
THEREFORE

HUMBLY PRAY

your Honourable House
that the Bill may not pass
into law as it now stands
and that they be heard by
themselves or 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
amendments as may be
necessary and proper for
their protection and
benefit.