

HOUSE OF COMMONS

SESSION 2005-06

CROSSRAIL

PETITION

Against the Bill – Praying to be heard by counsel etc,

TO THE HONOURABLE THE COMMONS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED.

THE HUMBLE PETITION OF VALERIE HIBBARD AND EVELYN WATSON

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 provisioin 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)
4. Your Petitioners are Valerie Hibbard and Evelyn Watson of 69 Friars Avenue, Shenfield, Essex, CM158HU. This property is Aa 3-bedroom semi-detached house and they are the sole occupiers.

5. Your Petitioners' house backs onto the site of the proposed works at and adjacent to Shenfield Station. According to the Environmental Statement deposited with the Bill, residents of Friars Avenue will be significantly affected by noise and/or visual impact to the extent that some residents may be eligible for insulation or even rehousing.
6. Your Petitioners and their 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. Your Petitioners understand that the proposed works at and near Shenfield station are estimated to take some 18 months to complete and it is conceivable that it could be longer. Your Petitioners are elderly pensioners and they rely heavily on the use of Friars Avenue car park when using local shops, post office and library. The only other alternative for off-street parking is the Shenfield Station long stay car park and that is proposed to be occupied as a work site at the same time. Your Petitioners do not enjoy good health and the noise and pollution from the construction work and their inability to use Friars Avenue car park would have an adverse effect on the health of your Petitioners, causing them to have to move away from the area (which they would not otherwise propose). Furthermore their property would be difficult to sell and only at a price below normal market value.
8. Your Petitioners respectfully suggest that Crossrail could commence at Stratford rather than Shenfield. There is already an excellent rapid rail service to both Stratford and Liverpool Street, as well as a regular metro service between those stations and Shenfield. Thus Crossrail would introduce an element of duplication.
9. There are other clauses and provisions in the Bill which, if passed into Law as they now stand, will prejudicially affect the rights and interests of your Petitioners and other clauses and provisions necessary for their protection and benefit are omitted therefrom.

**YOUR PETITIONERS THEREFORE
HUMBLY PRAY**

Your Honourable House that the Bill may not pass into law as it now stands and that he be heard by himself or counsel, agents and witnesses in support of the allegations of this Petition, against which 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.

**AND YOUR PETITIONERS WILL EV ER
PRAY ETC.**