

IN PARLIAMENT
HOUSE OF COMMONS
SESSION ~~(TO BE CONFIRMED)~~ 2014/15

HIGH SPEED RAIL (LONDON – WEST MIDLANDS) 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 J P Norman

HEREWITH as follows:-

- 1 A Bill (hereinafter 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 between Euston in London and a junction with the West Coast Main Line at Handsacre in Staffordshire, with a spur from Old Oak Common in the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham to a junction with the Channel Tunnel Rail Link at York Way in the London Borough of Islington and a spur from Water Orton in Warwickshire to Curzon Street in Birmingham; and for connected purposes.”
- 2 The Bill is presented by Mr Secretary McLoughlin, supported by The Prime Minister, The Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Secretary Theresa May, Secretary Vince Cable, Secretary Iain Duncan Smith, Secretary Eric Pickles, Secretary Owen Paterson, Secretary Edward Davey, and Mr Robert Goodwill.
- 3 Clauses 1 to 36 set out the Bill’s objectives in relation to the construction and operation of the railway mentioned in paragraph 1 above. They include provision for the construction of works, highways and road traffic matters, the compulsory acquisition of land and other provisions relating to the use of land, planning permission, heritage issues, trees and noise. They include clauses which would disapply and modify various enactments relating to special categories of land including burial grounds, consecrated land, commons and open spaces, and other matters, including overhead lines, water, building regulations and party walls, street works and the use of lorries.
- 4 Clauses 37 to 42 of the Bill deal with the regulatory regime for the railway.
- 5 Clauses 43 to 65 of the Bill set out a number of miscellaneous and general provisions, including provision for the appointment of a nominated undertaker (“the Nominated Undertaker”) to exercise the powers under the Bill, transfer schemes, provisions relating to statutory undertakers and the Crown, provision about the compulsory acquisition of land for regeneration, reinstatement works and provision about further high speed railway works. Provision is also made about the application of Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations.

- 6 The works proposed to be authorised by the Bill (“the Authorised Works”) are specified in clauses 1 and 2 of and Schedule 1 to the Bill. They consist of scheduled works, which are described in Schedule 1 to the Bill and other works, which are described in clause 2 of the Bill.

Who the Petitioner is:

Your Petitioner is J P Norman of 1 The Green Lower Boddington, my property is situated 400 metres from the proposed line.

Your Petitioner’s concerns:

The impact that the proposed line has had, has blighted my property meaning that we will lose in the region of £50000 and the close proximity of the proposed access roads means that during the building period we would be subject to major distress. Our outlook which at the moment is over open farm land will be ruined and our quality of life will be affected badly.

Selling Issues:

- 7 Our wish three years ago was to retire and downsize to a single floor property in the neighbouring village of Byfield where our grandchildren live. Byfield also has the amenities we will require over the coming years e.g. doctors surgery, regular bus service, shops and post office, all facilities we wish to be closer to. For the past two years we have tried to sell our property through two reputable estate agents and despite dropping from the pre blight valuation of £235000 to £185000 we have been unable to complete a sale. The major factor is the proposed rail line. We are therefore trapped in a situation where financially we will not be able to move to a property in the area we have lived for the past thirty years and wished to remain for the rest of our lives.

- 8 Your Petitioner requests that HS2 Ltd be required to purchase our property at the full pre blight market value, or alternatively, pay us the difference between the pre blight value and the actual price achieved to sell it now..

For the foregoing and connected reasons your Petitioner respectfully submits that, unless the Bill is amended as proposed above, the Bill 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

[Redacted signature area]

JP Norman

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IN PARLIAMENT
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SESSION [To be confirmed]

HIGH SPEED RAIL
(LONDON-WEST MIDLANDS)
BILL

PETITION OF Boddington Parish Council

AGAINST, By Counsel, &c.

Frederick Joseph Dumbleton

Lower Boddington