

**HIGH SPEED RAIL (LONDON - WEST MIDLANDS) BILL**

**PETITION**

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 KINGS BROMLEY STOPHS2 ACTION GROUP, CONSISTING OF JOHN SADLER, GUY ALLSOP, DIANNE ALLSOP, JOY FIELDING, BARRY STONEY, JULIA ALLSOPP, WAYNE BULL

SHEWETH as follows:-

1.A Bill (hereinafter referred to as "the Bill") has been introduced and is now pending in your honourable House entitled "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 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 are specified in clauses 1 and 2 of and Schedules 1 and 2 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 and Schedules 2 and 3 to the Bill.

7. Your Petitioners are an association of local residents who have lived in the area collectively for over 100 years. The association was established in January 2010, we represent the interests of hundreds of residents in the villages of Kings Bromley and Armitage with Handsacre who are directly or indirectly affected by the works referred to above. Their rights, interests and in some cases, property are injuriously affected by the bill, to which Your Petitioners object for reasons amongst others, hereinafter appearing.

8. Your Petitioners do not object in principle to construct HS2, but do object to the works proposed to be carried out as referred to above.

#### **Handsacre Main Compound and Wood End Lane Junction**

9. Your Petitioners have concerns to the size of the compound and its access haul road. The junction of the proposed haul road and Wood End Lane give concerns to your Petitioners on the grounds of safety to the members of the public. Construction Phase Map CT- 05 - 129 refers.

#### **Shaw Lane and Proposed Bridge Closure**

10. Your Petitioners object to the proposed permanent closure of Shaw Lane from the East and West of the WCML which will cause major disruption and diversion to residents, agricultural contractors and machinery going about their daily business. HS2 proposes to enhance Shaw Lane, East of the WCML by providing passing places along its length which in turn would be utilized by dog walkers and canal users to park their respective vehicles. This would only cause major problems for residents and agricultural contractors.

## **Common Lane, Riley Hill**

11. Your Petitioners have concerns for the proposed use of Common Lane for HS2 HGV lorries and machinery to access onto a private driveway/track leading to a property known as Wood End Common Barn Farm and Wood End Long Barn. This would cause major disruption, permanent blight and safety issues to them and residents and occupiers of Common Lane Farm, Barn Farm, Rose Cottage, Common Farm, Pool Farm, Bromley Hayes Garden Centre, Riley Hill Farm House, The Oaks and Bromley Hayes Cattery. Construction Phase Map CT- 05 - 128 - R1 refers.

12. Your Petitioners object to the proposal to use the private driveway/track giving access to Wood End Common Barn Farm and Wood End Long Barn as a permanent maintenance route on the grounds of permanent blight, security, health and safety. Because maintenance is going to be carried out during unsociable hours. Proposed scheme Map CT - 06 - 128 - R1 refers.

## **Balancing Pond, Bourne Brook**

13. Your Petitioners raise concern on the proposal to install a balancing pond linking into Bourne Brook and subsequent culverts on the grounds of flooding. Proposed Scheme Map CT - 06 - 129 refers.

## **Access to land for surveying**

14. Your Petitioners are concerned that rights of entry and authorisations to enter land for surveying purposes goes beyond the rights that are reasonable necessary. Your Petitioners note that these clauses are primarily designed for preparatory work to be undertaken on Phase 2 of HS2. Your petitioners submit that the powers in the Hybrid Bill are too broad and should be subject to independent oversight.

Your Petitioners request that Clauses 51 and 52 should be amended so that land can only be accessed with the landowner's and occupier's consent.

## **Mitigation**

### **Handsacre Main Compound and Wood end Lane Junction**

15. Your Petitioners would propose to have the haul road junction relocated to give access directly opposite the Wood End Lane junction. This in effect would create a crossroads junction which Your Petitioners feel would alleviate the need for a multi functioning traffic management system and reduce the possibility of any accidents.

### **Shaw Lane and Proposed Bridge Closure**

16. Your Petitioners propose HS2 make the haul road leading from Shaw Lane , Hanch to the A515 a permanent highway once all works have been completed. This would alleviate providing passing places along Shaw Lane and the requirement to upgrade and strengthen the bridge leading over the Trent and Mersey canal. Your Petitioners strongly oppose HS2 traffic using Tuppenhurst Lane and Shaw Lane Hanch, Kings Bromley as this would be very dangerous for dog and canal walkers and severely affect horse riders using the bridal path.

### **Common Lane, Riley Hill**

17. Your Petitioners would suggest that access to works over the Trent and Mersey canal can be obtained via a bailey bridge erected from the Willow Cottage, Lock cottage side of the canal. The use of cranes and concreting pumps could be utilised for the works to be carried out on Wood End Common Barn Farm and Wood End Long Barn side of the canal. This would alleviate the need for HS2 to have access along Common Lane and the private driveway/track to Wood End Common Barn Farm and Wood End Long Barn.

18. Your Petitioners would suggest that maintenance access for HS2 works appertaining to Phase 1 could be achieved at the Willow Cottage, Lock Cottage side of the Trent and Mersey Canal.

### **Balancing Pond, Bourne Brook**

19. Your Petitioners would suggest that Bourne Brook and subsequent culverts along Shaw Lane and the A515 are widened, enlarged and regularly dredged in order to accept the excess water expected as a result from the building of the railway. If this is not done then Your Petitioners have grave concerns with the possibility of flooding within Kings Bromley and the surrounding area.

### **Support for other mitigation proposals**

20. Your Petitioners support Staffs County Council and Lichfield District Council mitigation proposals relating to the lowering of Phase 1 HS2 alignment at Streethay concerning the lowering of the line going under the West Coast Main Line, South Staffs Line and A38 (reference CT-05-125)

21. Your Petitioner supports the Hyder Report submitted by the Canals and Rivers Trust and would seek assurances that the Promoter will re-examine the alignment of the railway at this location to determine whether or not a horizontal shift of the railway or a diversion of the Trent & Mersey canal could be achieved. We believe one of the aforementioned modifications would facilitate a lowering of the railway (by avoiding two separate crossing over the Trent and Mersey canal) which would reduce environmental impacts and

enable greater environmental and community benefits than are currently shown in the ES.

22. Your Petitioners support Staffs County Council and Lichfield District Council in the upgrading and widening of Wood End Lane from Hilliards Cross to the junction of the A515. Concern is raised that in excess of 1000 HS2 vehicle movements are proposed along the route of Wood End Lane to the A515 main compound.

### **Compensation**

23. Your Petitioners submit that the compensation provisions in relation to property that is not compulsory acquired and other matters would not be sufficient to compensate your Petitioners adequately for the loss and damage they incur as a result of the plan for Phase 1.

Your Petitioners request that the Bill should be amended to ensure Your Petitioners and other persons who are injuriously affected and adversely affected by loss of value should be entitled to claim compensation for the full amount of loss incurred due to HS2

24. For the foregoing and connected reasons Your Petitioners respectfully submit that, unless the Bill is amended as proposed above, so far affecting your Petitioners, should not be allowed to pass into law.

25. There are other clauses and provisions of the Bill which, if passed into law as they now stand will prejudicially affect Your Petitioners and their rights, interests and property and for which no adequate provision is made to protect Your Petitioners.

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 Petitioners in the premises as your Honourable House shall deem meet.

AND your Petitioners will ever pray, &c.

Signed

John Sadler

Guy Allsop

Dianne Allsop

Joy Fielding

Barry Stoney

Julia Allsopp

Wayne Bull

On behalf of Kings Bromley StopHS2 Action Group

