

IN PARLIAMENT
HOUSE OF COMMONS
SESSION 2013-2014

HIGH SPEED RAIL (LONDON – WEST MIDLANDS) BILL

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 Ruth Lindsay and Brian Lindsay

SHEWETH 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 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 described in paragraph 1. 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. 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 building regulations, street works and the use of lorries. The works proposed to be authorised by the Bill (Phase One of High Speed 2”) are specified in clauses 1 to 3 of and Schedules 1 and 2 to the Bill.

- 4 Your Petitioners are the joint freehold, owner-occupiers of 24 Sanctuary Close, Harefield, Middlesex, UB9 6LJ. This property has been the permanent home of your Petitioners for the past 33 years. During this time your Petitioners and their 4 children have enjoyed easy access to the local amenities and countryside. Your Petitioners' children now live away from the family home but near enough to be able to exchange visits regularly, having good access along Breakspear Road, Harvil Road and Moorhall Road from and to the A40, M40 and M25. Your Petitioners also have elderly parents for whom access for your Petitioners to these roads in order to visit regularly is of extreme importance. Your Petitioners and their family members will find making these visits stressful in terms of increased time and cost spent travelling when construction works proposed under the Bill cause severe congestion over many years on the above named roads. Your Petitioners currently enjoy ease of access to other parts of the London Borough of Hillingdon for recreation and essential services and amenities which they value highly. Your Petitioners' property is situated some 200 metres from the main entrance to Harefield Hospital in Hill End Road. Having both worked at Harefield Hospital, and having a family member who has benefited from emergency cardiac treatment at the hospital, your Petitioners are also concerned for the need of ambulances carrying patients, and for relatives of patients, to have easy access to Harefield from surrounding areas.
- 5 Your Petitioners and their rights and interests are injuriously affected by the Bill if passed into law in its present form, to which your Petitioners object for the following reasons amongst others, hereinafter appearing.
- 6 Your Petitioners regularly use Harvil Road and Moorhall Road to travel by car, bus and bicycle to access services and amenities in Uxbridge and surrounding towns. One of your Petitioners is required to visit Hillingdon Hospital regularly for health care and uses Moorhall Road to reach Uxbridge and from there Hillingdon Hospital. Your Petitioners are concerned that construction traffic resulting from works proposed in Harvil Road and Moorhall Road will result in considerable delays affecting access to essential services.
- 7 Your Petitioners frequently use bus route U9 along Harvil Road and bus route 331 along Moorhall Road from Harefield village centre to access services and amenities in Uxbridge. These routes have been dependable for many years and are relied upon by Harefield residents. Your Petitioners are concerned that construction works proposed in both roads will cause disruption to timetables and necessitate changes to routes which will give rise to inconvenience and delays.
- 8 Your Petitioners regularly use Breakspear Road to Ruislip to visit one of your Petitioners' elderly parents, and Moorhall Road to access by car the M40 and thence the M25 and M3 in order to visit one of your Petitioners' elderly parent who relies on these visits for practical assistance. These motorways are also an essential link for visits to your Petitioners' children and future grandchildren.

It is a concern to your Petitioners that construction traffic will cause delays that would prolong their journey time.

- 9 Your Petitioners travel by car and bicycle along Breakspear Road, Harvil Road and Moorhall Road several times each week in pursuit of leisure activities with others who share these interests, namely cycling and yoga classes, both of which have been recommended for maintaining good health. One of your Petitioners frequently cycles on roads and cycleways between Harefield and Uxbridge and surrounding areas and is concerned that the amount of dirt and dust generated by construction works and vehicles could increase the risk of accident and air pollution. One of your Petitioners is a member of the Pinner and Ruislip Bee Keepers Association and is concerned that the experienced members of the Association who have responsibility for the Associations' two apiaries in Ruislip and Harefield will have difficulty reaching those sites from their residences in other parts of the London Borough of Hillingdon to care for the bees.
 - 10 The two proposed construction sites along Moorhall Road, the construction of the railway line across Breakspear Road, Harvil Road and Moorhall Road, the construction of a National Grid Feeder Station and realignment of the National Grid in Harvil Road will all cause considerable disruption and delay to journeys and congestion on all local roads. Your Petitioners are concerned that the greatly increased volume of traffic and heavy construction vehicles will cause damage to the road surface on all of these roads. Such damage will be costly to repair and difficult to execute when construction vehicle movements will be continuing for several years.
 - 11 Your Petitioners respectfully submit that constructing a tunnel in the Harefield area would make the construction sites unnecessary and reduce construction traffic, so relieving the concerns of your Petitioners. If your Honourable House decide against a tunnel your Petitioners request that construction site placement and construction traffic be confined to areas that will not affect essential local roads simultaneously. Your Petitioners also respectfully request that sufficient funds be made available and traffic management be put in place to enable local road surfaces to be maintained to a standard which can be reasonably expected.
 - 12 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 and interests 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.

Ruth Lindsay

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Ruth Lindsay', written in a cursive style.

Brian Lindsay

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Brian Lindsay', written in a cursive style.

IN PARLIAMENT
HOUSE OF COMMONS
SESSION 2013-14

HIGH SPEED RAIL (LONDON – WEST MIDLANDS) BILL

PETITION OF RUTH LINDSAY AND BRIAN LINDSAY

AGAINST the Bill, By Counsel, &c.

[REDACTED]