

**IN PARLIAMENT**

**HOUSE OF COMMONS**

**SESSION 2013–14**

**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 Thomas A Bankes

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 petitioner is a private individual that is the sole owner to a 90 acre site of Land and lake. The property is known as Savay Lake, and the address is Moorhall road, Nr Denham, Uxbridge UB9 6PE. Your petitioner has a separate address which is Whitefriars, North End, Ashton Keynes Swindon SN6 6QR. Savay lake lies in the Colne Valley and has been run as a very well known Freshwater Fishery and Wildlife site for the past 50 years and the current proposal is that Hs2 plans to cross 800 metres of this lake and land with a double tracked viaduct 15 metres above water surface level fragmenting the lake and land into three separate boundaries that will bare the value of the Petitioners property near useless as the access rights will have such dreadful complications. The sites value is in its tranquillity and establishment since its excavation as a gravel pit after the Second World War and will be a great loss to the surrounding community.
8. Your Petitioner and their property are injuriously affected by the Bill, to which your Petitioner object for reasons amongst others, hereinafter appearing.
9. Your petitioners main objection is the visual destruction to the property including the noise and construction turmoil that will lead to mass fragmentation along not

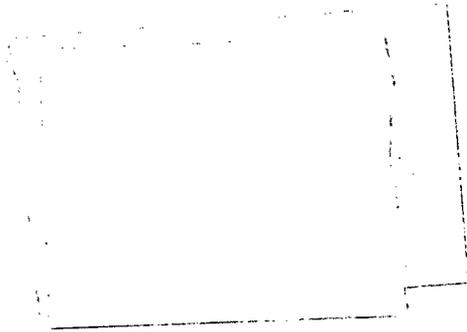
just this site but the whole length of the line. Officials from Hs2 have already been caught trespassing on the property before any permission was and still presently is not granted. If the proposals do continue in their current form how would users of the lake be able to access the site as from the compulsory purchase document received the site is not only dissected by the viaduct but also the Heathrow spur that they require further land from the petitioner. Due to the noise levels from High speed rail what distances would also be required to be deemed acceptable if the public were to continue to use the site, all these points would indicate there would be a fraction of the site that could be used.

10. Your petitioner objects to the powers that are proposed to be provided by the Bill to the Secretary of State and the nominated undertaker and respectfully submit that the Bill should be amended or undertakings should be required so that HS2 limited, the Secretary of State and/or the nominated Undertaker must review the construction strategy for the project and its related works by considering their cumulative impacts on the Environment and Communities. Once the results from these reviews have been assessed further measures for reduced impact should be taken into consideration before final plans and construction contractors employed. Your petitioner along with all those that live in Denham can only hope that their case will become strong enough that a tunnel may be considered for the Colne Valley park that will help protect its SSSI status.
11. For the foregoing and connected reasons your Petitioner respectfully submit that, unless the Bill is amended as proposed above, so far affecting your Petitioner, should not be allowed to pass into law.
12. There are other clauses and provisions of the Bill which, if passed into law as they now stand will prejudicially affect your Petitioner and their rights, interests and property and for which no adequate provision is made to protect your Petitioner.

YOUR PETITIONER 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 Petitioner 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.

AND your Petitioner will ever pray, &c.

Signed THOMAS . A . BANKES



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