

IN PARLIAMENT  
HOUSE OF COMMONS  
SESSION 2013–14

**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 of JOHN RILEY GLANFIELD

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 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.
- 7      Your Petitioner is John Riley Glanfield who resides at  
2, Manor Cottages, The Lee, Great Missenden, Bucks HP16 9NA.  
He is 94 year old gentleman whose wife Margaret (she suffers from  
severe dementia) lives at  
The Woodlands Care Centre, Aylesbury Road, Great Missenden, Bucks  
HP 16 9LS.
- 8      Your Petitioner and his rights, interests and property are injuriously affected by the Bill, to which your Petitioners object for reasons amongst others, hereinafter appearing.

Your Petitioner is a 93 year old gentleman living in The Lee, near Great Missenden. His wife, Margaret, is a resident at Woodlands Park Care Centre on the Aylesbury Road, (A413) Great Missenden. Woodlands Park Care Centre is a residential care home for older people suffering from mental disabilities associated with the ageing process, Margaret suffers from severe dementia. The construction route of HS2 bisects the area between your Petitioner's home in the Lee and his wife's care home on the Aylesbury Road (A413). Your Petitioner visits his wife daily but due to the construction of HS2 the access route will become intolerably difficult for him to navigate his way through the construction sites, road closures, diversions, excessive traffic, HGVs and general disruption and poor road conditions. The effects of the construction will seriously damage his quality of life and his ability to visit his wife easily and safely.

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A)

Your Petitioner is John Riley Glanfield , a 93 year old Gentleman who lives at 2, Manor Cottages, The Lee, Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire HP16 9NA and whose 84 year old wife, Margaret, is a resident at the Woodlands Park Care Centre, Aylesbury Road, Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire HP16 9LS. Margaret suffers from severe dementia . Until 2 years ago (2012) your Petitioner cared for his wife at their home in The Lee, near Great Missenden, until he could no longer manage (aged 91) to remain his wife's sole carer. He made the agonising decision to move his wife to the Woodlands Park Care Centre where she could be cared for by professionals. Your Petitioner chose The Woodlands Park Care Centre because it has an excellent reputation being the winner of the Buckingham County Council's excellence award for the care and dignity which it offers its residents. The Woodlands Park team love, serve and care for their elderly and vulnerable residents.

The Woodlands Park Care Centre has approximately 28 residents and 30 staff and is home to older people who have varying degrees of mental incapacity or disability associated with the aging process. Woodlands Park is a Grade II listed Victorian house overlooking the Misbourne Valley, farmland and woods. It is set back off the road up a long driveway, only bird song is heard - all is peaceful. However, the centre will be situated within 200 meters from the Rural Support Zone (RSZ) and only 300meters from the actual track of the proposed HS2 route. The proposed HS2 route bisects the area between the Woodlands Park Care Centre and your Petitioner's residence in The Lee. (See map No. 29 of the Property Compensation Consultation Map, Vol.2 for Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire). No matter which route your Petitioner uses to access the Woodlands Park Care Centre from The Lee, it will be necessary for him to cross the HS2 construction site in order to visit his wife Margaret. Your Petitioner currently visits Margaret on a daily basis to sit and hold her hand and comfort her. There is no public transport from The Lee area so your Petitioner must drive himself to the care centre. Your Petitioner's current route is via Potter Row, Frith Hill and the A413 London Road, or via Leather Lane from The Lee to the A413 Aylesbury/London Road - both these routes are due to be used intensively for HGV construction traffic, to be re-aligned, temporarily closed or diverted and will result in your Petitioner having to endure longer journey times, a rise in fuel consumption and the consequential cost, additional stress levels and a general deterioration of the quality of his life.

Furthermore, Great Missenden is the nearest town which offers the everyday facilities required by your Petitioner: banks, shops, restaurants, barbers, a car maintenance garage, the library, leisure facilities, the medical centre and dental practice, and most importantly The Chiltern Line railway station with direct (fast) trains to London, Birmingham and the surrounding towns and villages. Your Petitioner's access route to Great Missenden is also bisected by the HS2 construction sites.

Your Petitioner requests that Frith Hill, Leather Lane, Ballinger Road, Potter Row and Kings Lane not be used by HGVs at any time in order to minimise the negative impact of construction routes on the existing lanes and local traffic. Since very few of the roads in the this Chiltern area are suitable for HGVs the Petitioner requests that temporary, purpose built, access roads should be established on agricultural land that can be returned to agricultural use when no longer required for construction traffic and that the landowner/farmer be suitably compensated for this temporary loss of the use of his land for agricultural purposes. This would prevent the destruction of rural lanes, hedgerows and established wildlife habitat. The HS2 purpose built roads could be routed to avoid ancient woodlands and other sensitive areas and this proposal would also address concerns over the safety aspect in areas where local traffic and construction traffic are in conflict with each other. It would also remove the need for closures and diversions of existing routes which are essential and frequently used by local traffic.

## **B)**

As well as your Petitioner, voluntary drivers for charitable organisations such as Age U.K and Contact the Elderly need to commute between Great Missenden town and the Woodlands Park Care Centre in order to transport residents to their Lunch Clubs at their local church hall, to doctors and hospital appointments and various essential and social functions. These voluntary drivers and their elderly passengers will have to endure the same extended journey times, higher costs, stress and general disruption for years during the HS2 construction period. Families and friends visiting residents at the Woodlands Park Care Centre, the staff and carers who work and live at the centre and all manner of suppliers, maintenance workers, ambulances, hearses and service providers will all have to endure the additional cost and discomfort, inconvenience and waste of time that the diversions, road closures and construction traffic will cause. Night staff working at Woodlands Park are especially vulnerable and will be particularly anxious about the prospect of commuting their way through HS2 construction sites, diversions and road closures at night.

Your Petitioner placed his wife Margaret at the Woodlands Care Centre in order that she could spend the rest of her life enjoying the peace and tranquillity that the care centre could offer and because of its close proximity to the Petitioner's home at The Lee. Your Petitioner and his wife have enjoyed their retirement living in The Chilterns' Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty for many years and are now facing the prospect of having that same peace and tranquillity, that they had hoped to enjoy during the Autumn of their lives, shattered and destroyed by the construction and operating of HS2. For the rest of their lives they will have to endure noise and light pollution, air pollution, dust and damage to local roads by heavy construction vehicles. They will have to experience additional strain on local communities and public services associated with a population increase due to the establishing of camps for construction workers, additional security risks and a further increase in traffic congestion by workers privately owned vehicles.

The Petitioner respectfully suggests that the area surrounding the Woodlands Park Care Centre is unsuitable for a worksite and requests that if construction has to be carried out close to the home, with its frail and vulnerable residents, then the best means available for minimising noise, dust, light pollution and vibrations (both during the construction and the operating of HS2) be utilised. Furthermore, your Petitioner requests that a monitoring programme be agreed with the local authority and owners of Woodlands Park Care Centre to ensure that pollution is detected and addressed immediately by the ceasing of the work until pollution mitigation has been installed into the property.

C)

Your Petitioner is particularly concerned with regard to the safety aspect of his daily journeys to the Woodlands Park Care Centre, especially during the darker Winter months. The existing access road to the home is at a dangerous bend on the A413 and he fears that, with all the additional disruption, the turning off to the centre may become even more hazardous - there having already been a fatal accident recently. The lanes and country roads that are typical of the Chiltern villages and rural communities are unlit, very narrow (single lane with passing places only in many cases), winding and generously forested, most

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are without footpaths or pavements. The inevitable mud and spoil that will be dropped and spread along these routes by construction traffic, coupled with the enormous increase in HGV traffic, bad weather and poor visibility, will make driving along the route between your Petitioner's home in The Lee and the Woodlands Park Care Centre an extremely hazardous journey for him as well as other drivers, cyclists, ramblers, horse riders and pedestrians alike.

#### MITIGATION STEPS TO BE TAKEN

Your Petitioner wants an extended bored tunnel, such as the CRAG T2, be constructed beneath the whole of The Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty to protect the unique beauty of this special and, until now, rigidly protected landscape.

If the request for an extended bored tunnel beneath the whole of the Chilterns AONB is refused, your Petitioner wants the South Heath Chiltern Tunnel (referred to as the REPA tunnel in vol. 2 CFA 9 Environmental Statement) to be built and the highest quality mitigation should be incorporated to the surface area section of the line from the northern portal of REPA's tunnel to the north of Wendover, including deeper cuttings, 4 metre high sound barrier fencing on both sides of the track, sound absorption foundations for the tracks to be laid.

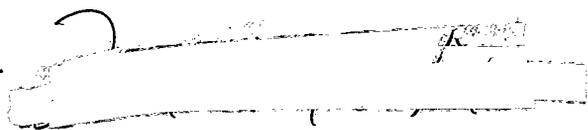
Your Petitioner feels privileged and grateful that he and his wife have been able to enjoy living in such a special environment and would like to see it preserved and protected for future generations to come. Your Petitioner realises that he will probably never witness the completion of HS2 himself but feels that every possible step must be taken to minimise the permanent damage that the construction of HS2 will inevitably bring to the area. He further feels that the most effective step for mitigating the damage and destruction of The Chilterns by the building and operating of HS2 would be the construction of a bored tunnel beneath the full AONB which would help restore, to some extent, the original peace, tranquillity and beauty of this quintessentially English landscape. A bored tunnel beneath The Chilterns AONB would mitigate very many of the above concerns during the construction and operating of HS2..

Your Petitioner believes that his Petition should be heard because he loves his wife dearly and has never been apart from her but fears that the construction of HS2 will put his daily visits to the Woodlands Park Care Centre in jeopardy. He and his wife have lived in The Lee all their married life and for this reason his concerns regarding the effect of HS2 on the surrounding area are grave. He feels strongly that his Petition should be heard for the sake of other older members of the community who will experience extreme difficulties during the construction and operating of HS2.

10 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 Petitioner in the premises as your Honourable House shall deem meet.

AND your Petitioners will ever pray, &c.



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(LONDON-WEST MIDLANDS)  
BILL

PETITION OF: JOHN RILEY GLANFIELD

AGAINST, By Counsel, &c.

AGENT : JOHN SIMON THRALE MORRIS.

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