

IN PARLIAMENT
HOUSE OF COMMONS
SESSION 2013-2014

HIGH SPEED RAIL (LONDON-WEST MIDLANDS) BILL

Against –on Merits –Praying to be heard By Counsel. &c

To the Honourable the Common of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in Parliament assembled.

THE HUMBLE PETITION of West Wycombe Parish Council

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 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 Ian Duncan Smith, Secretary Eric Pickles, Secretary Owen Patterson, 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 display 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 provisions 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, provisions about 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 West Wycombe Parish Council. A part of the proposed construction route (A4010) to be used under the Bill runs through the Parish of West Wycombe. All residents and businesses in your Petitioners area will be injuriously affected by the provisions of the Bill. Your Petitioners area includes roads which are liable, according to the London – West Midlands Environmental Statement (volume 2, Community Forum Area report CFA10 Dunsmore, Wendover and Halton chapter 2.3) that accompanies the Bill to be interfered with or used by construction traffic during construction of the Authorised Works. The Bill contains wide ranging powers to enable the Secretary of State to acquire land compulsorily outside the limits of land to be acquired under the Bill for purposes including regeneration and because of the proximity of land within your Petitioners’ area to the Authorised Works, those powers are more likely to be used in relation to those properties than other properties, causing unnecessary blight. Your petitioners were not consulted by High Speed 2 Ltd about the proposals in the Bill, but were alerted by the Right Honourable David Lidington MP on 25th September 2013, the existing road network which serve the inhabitants of your petitioners’ residents are liable to be adversely affected as a consequence of the proposals in the Bill the area for which your Petitioner are a local authority will be injuriously affected by the provisions of the Bill. Your Petitioners accordingly object for the reasons, amongst others, hereinafter appearing.

Your Petitioner represents approx. 1750 residents all of whom will be affected by the works proposed by the Bill. This includes the A4010 that will be used as a major construction route.

8. Your Petitioners, West Wycombe Parish Council’s rights, interests and property are injuriously affected by the Bill, to which your Petitioners object for reasons amongst others, herein appearing.
9. Your Petitioner is concerned about the disruption HS2 construction vehicles will cause to the local road network particularly as the A4010 is the main link between two of the major towns, High Wycombe and

Aylesbury, in the area. The road, A4010, is unsuitable for construction traffic because:

- i. It is single carriageway, unlit with no overtaking places and is already well used by residents of the community as a commuter route.
- ii. It is the main link road from Aylesbury to the M40 and M4.
- iii. It carries large numbers of blue light ambulances between the two local hospitals of the area (High Wycombe and Stoke Mandeville)
- iv. The main railway line from Marylebone to Birmingham (Chilterns Railways) runs through the parish. At the edge of your petitioner's parish the railway line runs over an old, narrow, low arched railway bridge (NAJ/2/81) which is at an angle of approximately 140 degrees to the road. Large vehicles have to drive through using the middle of the road. This poses a serious obstacle to all traffic and especially emergency vehicles. There is a history of accidents with this bridge.

Your petitioner requests that the nominated undertaker uses J2, M40 and a by pass via Wilton Park, Beaconsfield, to join the A413 at Amersham.

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 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 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.

Sharon Henson

Signature.....petitioner.

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BILL

PETITION OF West Wycombe Parish Council

AGAINST, By Counsel, &c

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