

PETITION against the

High Speed Rail (London – West Midlands) Bill

THE PETITION OF Burton Green Parish Council

Declares that:

1. The petitioners are specially and directly adversely affected by the whole bill

Your petitioner

2. The petitioner is Burton Green Parish Council, representing those who live in the parish of Burton Green. Residents in the parish have property that will be compulsory purchased as a result of the bill, plus property and other interests that will suffer serious detriment specifically and directly as a result of the construction and operation of the railway.

Your petitioner's concerns

3. Under the current alignment and construction methods the centre of Burton Green Village will be seriously compromised by HS2 (including demolition/compulsory purchase of some properties) and all residents will see the effects of construction impacts on amenities and travel, plus concerns about health and wellbeing from dust and noise. A significant proportion of the population will leave the village (this process has already started) giving problems with social cohesion and community sustainability. Once operating there will be residual problems with noise for some residents.
4. Solutions to the above mentioned problems are available but to date have to a greater or lesser extent been dismissed by the promotor. We would request that an independent assessment is made using clearly stated and quantitative criteria to ensure that mitigation and cost benefit is made to a consistent fashion in all areas of the line and to avoid any impression that this is made only by political expedience and avoiding expense. The following points cover some specific requests to be assessed.

Noise

5. The latest information we have shows that significant operating noise will remain for many residents and for users of the Greenway. We note that noise maps based on averaging underplay the impact of an intermittent but frequent noise source, and this distortion is even worse for the late evening/early morning periods which are 'reduced' only by averaging – clearly a given train will create the same noise regardless of whether it is full or empty and running at 6am or 6pm. Currently this area is relatively tranquil which makes the additional noise even more damaging. Your Petitioners therefore ask that the promoters further improve noise mitigation, noting that the following specific requests should not be considered exhaustive.

6. We request that the cut-and-cover tunnel should be extended southwards by a further 400-500m in order to protect the village hall, Broadwell Woods residential park, Two Oaks day nursery, plus other Red Lane properties and the Greenway which runs relatively close to the alignment in this area. Also benefiting would be the site of the present Burrow Hill nursery on which a large housing development is scheduled.
7. We request that extra and/or improved noise barriers be added to the design going further southwards.
8. We request that the cut-and cover tunnel should be extended northwards by a further 100m which will reduce noise impacts on Hodgetts Lane residents and on the Greenway, as well as reduce the requirement for land acquisition to generate noise bunds in the field next to the current village hall.
9. We note that as the Greenway continues northwards it runs essentially adjacent to HS2 giving clear concerns over noise and especially the potential for 'startle' effects on horse-riders. We therefore request that the Promoters take all reasonable measures to mitigate these impacts.
10. Regarding noise your Petitioners would lastly request that our community be offered some form of road-show or other method to provide a comprehensive demonstration/simulation of the expected noise after HS2 becomes operational. Attendees should be able to select from any of the sound assessment locations documented within our area (e.g. as shown in SV-02-50a and SV-02-49) plus other key points of interest such as various locations along the Greenway as they deem appropriate to their own position. Such demonstrations would better allow residents to be reassured as to the effectiveness of proposed mitigation and/or to understand where better mitigation is required and/or to better decide on their own decisions regarding staying or leaving the community.

Auto-transformer site

11. We continue to have concerns regarding the location of the autotransformer site which is to be placed immediately adjacent to the village (the existing sub-station is a considerable distance away and definitely 'outside' the village). Your Petitioners request that further efforts be made to screen the site from the village, and that guarantees are given that lighting, building facades, etc are designed sympathetically to the location.

Compensation

12. Your Petitioners note that even should all of the above requests be fulfilled Burton Green will still be suffering an enormous negative impact from HS2, both at individual and at community levels, and as such it is only right that full and fair compensation be paid.
13. We request that a specific compensation fund be generated for the community of Burton Green, which would be available to spend on approved projects that truly give the community something back as compensation for their sacrifices.
14. Your Petitioners further request that compensation for individuals is further refined, and especially the methodology:
15. We request that an area of properties is defined that do not need to go through the

'pantomime' of trying to sell before starting the need to sell process. We would suggest a distance of 240m from the line as a starting point.

16. We request that every effort be taken to encourage residents to remain within the village. We support the concept of the alternative cash offer for those within 120m, but would ask that this is made non-binding – either the voluntary purchase option should remain available, or at least 'construction impact' should be made a single clear qualification for the need to sell scheme.

Construction

17. During the construction phase a hotline should be established for residents to raise any issues of concern and allow immediate response and oversight of contractors from the promotor. This will go a long way to reassure that their interests will be maintained during the critical construction period.

The prayer

18. The petitioners therefore asks the House of Lords that they in accordance with the rules and Standing Orders of the House, be given an opportunity to give evidence on all or some of the issues raised in this petition to the Select Committee which considers this Bill.

AND the petitioners remains, etc.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. Gibbs', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Cllr Andrew Gibbs (Agent)

18th April 2016

APPENDIX B: INFORMATION SHEETS

These pages must be completed and must accompany your original signed petition when you deposit it.

Please supply the following information (in block capitals):

I prefer to be contacted (please tick):

(a) directly [] (b) via my agent [X] (c) both []

Contact details for the Petitioner (if there is more than one choose one to receive all communications on the petition)

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms	First Name:
/Other:	Last Name:
Address:	
	Post code:
Daytime phone:	Mobile:
Email Address:	

Contact details for the Agent (if there is one)

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms	First Name: ANDREW
/Other: Dr	Last Name: GIBBS
Address:	293 CROMWELL LANE
	BURTON GREEN
	KENILWORTH
	WARWICKSHIRE
	Post code: CV8 1PN
Daytime phone: 02476461254	Mobile: 07799 837 403
Email Address: andrew@gibbshome.plus.com	

Please also complete the declaration overleaf.

.....continued.

Declaration to be made by the petitioner or the petitioner's agent

I understand:

1. that a copy of this petition in full but without my signature, will be placed on the Parliamentary website, a hard copy will be made available to anyone who asks for it.
2. that the original signed petition will be kept in the Lords Private Bill Office and subsequently kept as a record of Parliament in the Parliamentary Archives (where it can be made available to the public under the Freedom of Information Act 2000);
3. that the personal information supplied in *Appendix B: Information Sheets* may:
 - a. be kept in a database by either or both Private Bill Offices. This database may be used to store summaries of e-mails and/or conversations for the purpose of keeping track of procedural advice/information given to the parties or received from them, or for other internal purposes connected with the HS2 Bill;
 - b. will be made available to the HS2 team and to David Walker, Winckworth Sherwood LLP.
 - c. will be kept as a record of Parliament in the Parliamentary Archives.

This information will not be shared with any other party unless prior permission has been obtained from the petitioner/Agent concerned.

4. I agree to obey and observe the orders and practice of the House of Lords and any rules prescribed by the House, or its Committee, in relation to the proceedings on this petition.

signature of petitioner:

name of petitioner (block capitals):

or

signature of Agent: 

name of Agent (block capitals): ANDREW GIBBS

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Cllr Andrew Gibbs (Agent)

18th April 2016

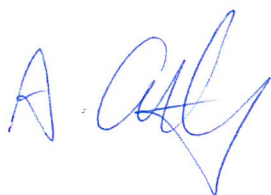
**PART 2: FOR SOLICITORS OR THOSE WHO HAVE PREVIOUSLY
BEEN REGISTERED AS PARLIAMENTARY AGENTS**

I, Dr Andrew Gibbs

of 293 Cromwell Lane, Burton Green, Kenilworth, CV8 1PN

having previously been registered as a Parliamentary Agent, or, being a Solicitor, and being actually employed during the current session in opposing a bill, hereby apply to have my name registered, for the Session 2015-16 as a Parliamentary Agent entitled to practise as such in opposing bills.

signature

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'A. Gibbs', written over a horizontal line.

date

18th April 2016