



May 12th, 2019

The Forty First Letter from a Parish Council questioning HS2

The community of Long Itchington and Long Itchington Parish Council, having petitioned Parliament over HS2 in 2016, wish to support - in the strongest terms - the press release from Greatworth and Halse Parish Council and the 40+ co-signatories expressing their deep and unreserved concern at recently released communications questioning the validity of HS2.

We note that many authoritative sources are now suggesting the overall cost of the scheme is “ballooning to over £50billion and may even exceed that figure”, and there are serious questions over the power supply, the actual market for travel as well as whether there is indeed any environmental benefit to be gained. The suggested economic benefits to the local and regional economy appear to be increasingly flawed.

As a community, we in Long Itchington, like many others along the route, face disruption to and the destruction of ancient landscapes in our rural setting, notwithstanding the negative impacts from noise, construction pollution and the inconvenience of permanent road closures for a project which will have no benefit whatsoever for local residents.

As highlighted in the correspondence from Greatworth and Halse Parish Council we too can from local observations along the line see evidence of a total disregard for local communities, householders and businesses and an obvious lack of on-site cost control.

It is clear from our perspective that the decisions on which the Bill to enable the project was passed in both Houses of Parliament are now questionable, being founded upon falsehoods, wilful misinterpretations of information and made in the interests of the few over those with limited voice.

From any rational perspective we feel that this project is now rapidly escalating towards financial and environmental disaster for our country. The destruction of communities and valuable landscapes, the negative impact on wildlife habitats and on the quality of life for those along the route is far too high a price to pay for so little provable return.

We are fully in support of the aforementioned correspondence and we wish to add our voice to those, who like ourselves, are witnessing “on the ground” the unfolding folly of HS2.

Barbara Atline

Chair, Long Itchington Parish Council

FOR AND ON BEHALF OF Long Itchington Parish Council and the communities we represent.



To: Chris Grayling MP
Andrea Leadsom MP
Jeremy Wright MP
Cllr Louis Adam
Cllr Bob Stevens

CC: Greatworth & Halse Parish Council
Curdworth Parish Council
Water Orton Parish Council
Coleshill Town Council
Stoneleigh & Ashow Parish Council
Weston under Wetherley Parish Council
Offchurch Parish Council
Stoneton Parish Council
Wormleighton Parish Council
Aston le Walls Parish Council
Chipping Warden & Edgecote Parish Council
Thorpe Mandeville Parish Council
Brackley Town Council
Newton Purcell with Shelswell Parish Council
Preston Bissett Parish Council
Twyford Parish Council
Stoke Mandeville Parish Council
The Lee Parish Council
Great Missenden Parish Council
Chalfont St Peter Parish Council
Chalfont St Giles Parish Council
Hunningham Parish Council
Chapel Ascote Parish Council
Farthinghoe Parish Council
Helmdon Parish Council
Middle Clayton Parish Council
Seer Green Parish Council
Ufton Parish Council
Stockton Parish Council
Southam Town Council