

Great Missenden, South Heath and Wendover Community Forum

20 March 2012, 1915-2115

DRAFT Note

Forum Attendees

Chair

David Liddington, MP's representative
Great Missenden Parish Council
Great Missenden and Parish Revitalisation Group
Great Missenden Stop HS2
HP22 6PN Wendover Action Group
Little Kingshill Village Society
Potter Row Action Group
South Heath Action Group
Speen Area Action Group
The Chesham Society
The Chiltern Ridges HS2 Action Group – CRAG (3 representatives)
The Chiltern Society
The Chilterns Conservation Board
The Dunsmore Society (3 representatives)
The Wendover Society (2 representatives)
Wendover Parish Council
Wendover District Council
Wycombe District Council
Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust
Colesbury Action Group

HS2 Representatives

HS2 Ltd (Interim Stakeholder Manager)
HS2 Ltd (Stakeholder Manager)
HS2 Ltd (Environment Manager)
HS2 Ltd (Engineering)
HS2 Ltd (Secretariat)

Issues Raised By Forum Members

- The last consultation exercise was seen as a box ticking exercise and the views of local residents had not been taken into account. The forum felt that HS2 Ltd had lost credibility as a result.
- Want the Community Forum process to be meaningful. As part of this HS2 Ltd staff that attend need to be sufficiently senior to have influence within the organisation.

- There is a need for continuity in the individuals that attend from HS2 Ltd.
- Need to recognise that the Chilterns (including the AONB) is one entity and the area should not be split across different Community Forums.
- Need an independent Chair from outside the area.
- Concern that not all local areas (including Districts) were properly represented.
- Need for the purchase of "compensatory" land to protect habitats affected by the line.
- Membership of the forum should be expanded to include local schools, business representatives, and the Chiltern Conservation Board.
- Halton PC requested to attend.
- Need to recognise that the affects of the line creates a East/West as well as a North/South divide which needs addressing.
- Mitigation in the area as a result of the announcement in January 2012 made the situation worse in South Heath, Potters Row and Wendover Dean. Also concern that the reduction of cost (£250M) within the Chilterns section of the line was not ploughed back into mitigations.
- The Forum agree to record that they felt it was inaccurate to include the statement in HS2 literature that design changes announce in January 2012 were designed to reduce the impact of the scheme.
- Need to include Little Missenden in this forum.
- The Terms of Reference have no deliverables and have not been agreed. The forum would like the issue of tunnelling under all of the Chilterns to be included in the scope.
- Want bilateral meetings as well as Community Forums.
- Do not want to discuss mitigation without elected reps present.

Actions

1. HS2 Ltd agreed to produce a minute of meetings from the next Community Forum.
2. HS2 Ltd agreed to provide the note of this meeting, and minutes of future meetings, as soon as possible afterwards and no later than 2 weeks after each meeting.

3. HS2 Ltd to provide a tightly timed agenda for future meetings, which will be published on the website.
4. HS2 Ltd to contact neighbouring Community Forums to discuss possible boundary changes to address the issues raised during the meeting. This would include HS2 considering the boundary for Community Forums so that Greater and Little Missenden could both be covered by one Forum.
5. HS2 Ltd to provide contact details for staff.
6. HS2 Ltd to provide a statement of how Community Forums fit into the process for informing any decisions by the Secretary of State for Transport.
7. HS2 Ltd to provide hard copies of key documents including copies of the relevant plans for use by the forum.
8. Discussion of the line of route to be added to the agenda for the next forum.
9. HS2 Ltd to circulate a note of their opening remarks to the forum.
10. The forum asked HS2 Ltd to share between members all the email addresses of all those present, and to ask permission of the one member that had left before the end to do the same.
11. HS2 Ltd agreed to report back at the next forum their views on the forum's desire to have the whole route in a tunnel throughout the Chilterns.
12. HS2 Ltd to consider extending membership of the Community Forums to include senior members of Districts and County Councils.