STONE RURAL PARISH COUNCIL

THORNBURY
WILLOWDALE
ASTON-BY-STONE
STAFFORDSHIRE
ST15 0BE

4th March 2019

James Durridge MP
HS2 Bill Select Committee
Houses of Parliament
Westminster
London SW1A 0AA

Dear Mr Durridge

Proceedings of HS2 Select Committee Afternoon of 15th May 2018

In amongst all the petitioners, you may not remember me. However I am somewhat concerned about the statement made by Timothy Mould QC during my presentation in paragraphs 79-85.

In the most recent proposals published by HS2 explaining the AP2 additions, the documents indicate that construction traffic will make the movement of north on A34 turning right onto A51 southbound at Aston Roundabout contrary to evidence stated by Mr Mould on 15th May 2018. It appears that the Select Committee (and I) have been misled by Mr Mould. It is somewhat surprising that he should have done this when he had a back-up team sitting behind him who should have passed him the correct but opposite message.

Since this is a highway matter, I have discussed it with Staffordshire County Council whose representative stated that the planned construction traffic movement stated above and introduced by me in Select Committee was agreed in the Staffordshire County Council Assurance between the County Council and HS2 in spring 2018 (made public, I understand, in the week beginning 7th May 2018). Thus Mr Mould and the HS2 Team did not inform the Select Committee correctly.

A solution to this is for the Parish Council to petition against the AP2 proposals on the matter of untrue statements made in Select Committee. However since this is a highways matter and the County Council is fully aware of the situation, any further petition from Stone Rural would waste everybody’s time. The County Council will make suitable comments on this, amongst many other highway situations, as soon as HS2 and/or subsequently its contractors produce proposed traffic flows for HGV traffic on Staffordshire’s roads. I understand that such traffic volumes will be forthcoming soon from HS2 but possibly not before the expiry of the petitioning period.

Having not experienced Parliamentary procedures before, I am not sure what to expect as an answer from you on this matter. However I shall be grateful if you can explain what is done. If I have noted an inconsistency, where else in the proceedings may there be similar problems?

Yours sincerely

[Signature]

DBL Fletcher, (Chairman Stone Rural Parish Council).