

Parish Council meeting 16/05/2019 – Additional documents

HS2 Annual Highways meeting.

Dear All

You will recall that at the end of January I e-mailed the Parish and District Councils along the line of route of Phase 2a of the proposed High Speed Two Railway regarding the planned arrangement for holding an annual meeting related to traffic, transport and highway matters.

Following consultation with the relevant highway authorities, I can confirm that the arrangements for the 1st meeting have been agreed and are as follows:

The meeting will be held on Thursday 6th June between 10:30am and 12:30pm. The meeting location will be the North Staffordshire Conference Centre, North Staffordshire Medical Institute, Hartshill Road, Hartshill, Stoke-on-Trent, ST4 7NY. The conference centre is walkable from Stoke on Trent railway station.

As noted in our previous correspondence, we now extend an invitation for each Parish or District to set out questions or issues which they wish to raise at the annual meeting about the design and construction of Phase 2a of HS2 related to traffic, transport or highway matters. These should be questions about our approach to these topics, rather than a specific question about a specific location.

We would be grateful if you can send your questions or issues to myself prior to mid-day on the 17th May. We will agree the agenda with the Phase 2a highway authorities at a meeting of the Highways Sub-group which will be held a few days later.

We would also be grateful if you can confirm that your Parish or District Council will be represented – we will need to limit attendance to one representative per Parish or District Council.

We look forward to receiving your questions and issues and trust that the annual meeting will provide a useful exchange of information.

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82/19 STANDING ORDERS

To amend the Standing Orders to better reflect the requirements of the Local Government Act 1972.

STANDING ORDER 1.2

Current

- 1.2 “When calculating the 3 clear days for notice of a meeting to councillors and the public, the day on which notice was issued; the day of the meeting; a Sunday or of a bank holiday or a day appointed for public thanksgiving or mourning shall not count.”

Proposed new Standing Order 1.2 plus an additional clarification paragraph moving subsequent paragraphs down by one:

- 1.2 “When calculating the 3 clear days for notice of a meeting to councillors and the public, the day on which notice was issued; the day of the meeting; a Sunday; ***any day of the Christmas break; Easter break or bank holiday break*** or a day appointed for public thanksgiving or mourning shall not count.”

Local Government Act 1972 paragraph 243(1):

“Where the day or the last day on which anything is required or permitted to be done by or by virtue of any provision to which this subsection applies is a Sunday, day of the Christmas break, or the Easter break or f a bank holiday break or a day appointed for public thanksgiving or mourning, the requirement or permission shall be deemed to relate to the first day thereafter which is not one of the days specified above.”

Schedule 12 paragraph 10(2):

“Three clear days at least before a meeting of a parish council-“

- 1.3 ***Christmas break means the period beginning with the last weekday before Christmas and ending with the first weekday after Christmas Day which is not a bank holiday; Easter break means the period beginning with the Thursday before and ending with the Tuesday after Easter Day. Bank holiday break means any bank holiday not included in the Christmas or Easter breaks and the period beginning with the last weekday before that bank holiday and ending with the next weekday which is not a bank holiday.***

Local Government Act 1972 paragraph 270(1) refers.

STANDING ORDER 1.22

- 1.22 No business may be transacted at a meeting unless at least one third, rounded up, of the whole number of members of the Committee are present and in no case shall the quorum of a meeting be less than 3. For the Full Council the number required shall be 7.

The legal requirement in Local Government Act 1972 Schedule 12 paragraph 12 states:

“Subject to paragraph 45 below, no business shall be transacted at a meeting of a parish council unless at least one-third of the whole number of members of the council are present at the meeting; but, notwithstanding anything in that paragraph, in no case shall the quorum be less than three.”

Proposed new Standing Order 1.23 (taking into account additional paragraph 1.3 above)

1.23 No business may be transacted at a meeting unless at least one third, rounded up, of the whole number of members of the Committee are present and in no case shall the quorum of a meeting be less than 3. For the Full Council the number required shall be 5.”