

## Hints & Area AGAINST HS2

From Guide Clump towards West Crossing the flood plain

June 2013

### Consultation on the Draft Environmental

#### Closing Date for Response 11th July

A full response, produced by the Parish Council, will shortly be on the Hints Village Website.

**More specific points about mitigation for Hints, which could be included in your response, are given below.**

- The landscape around Hints is a "sensitive and protected designated asset of high cultural value" as protected by Lichfield District Council and Staffordshire County Council Policies.
- This landscape includes two ancient woodlands, Rookery

Wood and Roundhill Wood. **These woods will be permanently damaged. In the words of the draft ES they will suffer "major adverse effect".**

- Hints Village is part of a Conservation area and as such the visual aspect of the landscape is protected by Lichfield District Council and Staffordshire County Council Policies.
- The Community of Hints will suffer "major adverse effects" in terms of visual and noise blight - additional wheel to rail screech noise will be magnified because of the topography of the landscape.

- The draft ES is not complete in terms of data collection, specifically ecological data and noise assessment and as such is flawed.

- In providing only superficial, minimal and ineffective mitigation for Hints, HS2 Ltd. is in breach of its own policy objective - "to protect natural and cultural resources and to enhance the environment"

- Our short tunnel proposal (approx 800m through the top of the escarpment) would help to protect and conserve the Ancient Woodlands and sensitive high value landscape.

It would partially protect ecologically important species habitats such as bats.

It would also protect Hints village from the worse effects of noise and visual blight.

- **As a minimum we need to see this short tunnel incorporated into the final Environmental Statement.**

This proposal is supported by Hints with Canwell Parish Council and Lichfield District Council. It is being actively promoted by Staffordshire County Council and has the full support of Christopher Pincher MP.

Last week a meeting was arranged by Christopher Pincher with the Secretary of State for Transport. A delegate from the Action Group and the County presented the proposal for the short tunnel at Hints.

### **This Proposal also needs your support**

If you have **NOT** already responded to the consultation

**Please respond NOW simply by completing the attached card**