

The Parish of

Identifies person

The Revd Margaret Mossman

Address

Tel:

Direct phone

Infrastructure Planning Commission
Temple Keys House
Temple Keys
Bristol
BS1 6PN

IPC

14 JUN 2011

REF:

13 June 2011

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Network Rail North Doncaster Chord Scheme Proposal

As Vicar of the Parish *Identifies person* in the Askern Spa Ward, I write to express my concerns about the proposal being put forward by Network Rail in this area. Residents and users of the church feel that the public consultation was flawed for the following reasons and fails to adopt Localism and Big Society approaches to its outcomes with the local community being told what is best and what it will get:

- Residents living to the east of the Moss Road level crossing were not notified of all presentations taking place, and yet this element will be greatly affected as more freight is taken off the east coast main line and transferred to the Askern line. Other residents within Instoneville were notified of the final consultation presentation within Askern Library but Moss Road residents were not.
- Residents of Barnby Dun were consulted on both occasions but yet these are the least affected people, and this surely raises questions why.
- Residents of Owston were never consulted or notified and yet again this community will be greatly affected by increased traffic during and after construction, as the only exit road to this village is via a junction which comes out at an extremely busy 5 lane end junction including the busy A19 road.

As Vicar of the Parish Church which is sited in Identifies person I am concerned not only for the residents and regular uses of the church, but also for the thousands who attend church throughout the year for baptisms, weddings and funerals - many of whom are not aware of the dangers of entering and leaving the village at the point of the A19 junction.

I join with the residents in believing that the making up of a green road that runs from Norton Common Lane, Norton to Fenwick should be an integral part of this scheme to facilitate emergency vehicles and others to access the east of Askern without being held up at the Moss Road crossing. The crossing already creates a traffic hazard when the crossing is closed, as vehicles back up from the crossing gates through the traffic lights at the junction with the busy A19. Emergency vehicles also need to get to the east of the crossing as this area of Askern has many elderly and disabled people living on the east side. The fire station is on the east side, but with the greater number of freight trains using the Askern line, residents on the west side who require emergency cover would be left extremely vulnerable.

The proposals put forward re the junction with Rockley Lane, A19, Sutton Road and Stockbridge Lane should be permanently improved, as with local knowledge we are certain that the estimated number of additional vehicles that this junction will have to cope with has been greatly under estimated.

The scheme in principle can still be built with local requirements absorbed into the overall scheme. The community recognise and accept it as a scheme of national strategic importance and feel a win-win situation could be achieved for the residents of the ward and Network Rail if these two proposals are integrated into the scheme. The scheme we would ideally wish to see is no road bridge, the Joan Croft crossing closed, and the above road and junction improvements which should prevent greatly increased traffic on what is a single track road that comes out onto an extremely busy junction and greatly increased congestion within the centre of Askern.

Yours faithfully

Signature

The Revd. Margaret Mossman