

Address

9th June 2011

Infrastructure Planning Commission,
Temple Quay House,
Temple Quay,
BRISTOL.
BS1 6PN

Dear Sirs

Network Rail North Doncaster Chord Scheme Proposal

As a resident of Holme, I wish to raise my concerns in respect of the proposals being put forward by Network Rail relating to the above scheme.

I have no objections in principle to the proposed new railway line. However, what I do object to and very strongly at that, is the fact that Network Rail have treated the locals to whom it matters most, in an almost off hand way.

We were initially sent a letter outlining the proposals and we duly attended a consultation event about it. At that time we filled in a form stating our concerns. At that meeting we talked with the project managers from Network Rail and we discussed the closing of Joan Croft crossing. We were pleased to hear that they were very much in favour of closing the crossing and strongly agreed with the proposal. We were talked through the options of moving the public footpaths that it would affect. Under no circumstances whatsoever were we told of the proposed road bridge at this first meeting. We left that meeting feeling we had been listened to.

Then some months later we heard from friends in Askern that Network Rail were proposing a road bridge over the east coast main line. This came as a great shock! Leaflets outlining more consultations were given to some residents in Askern but again, the people it affects most, ie. residents in Holme, many who are only a matter of metres from this proposed bridge, were NEVER informed. It almost seemed as though Network Rail were trying to exclude us and keep it quiet! Again we objected in writing and again we have never even received an acknowledgement. I find this poor to say the least.

In their proposals they state that a percentage of people in the area did not object to the road bridge, how can anyone object if they are unaware of it? They made a point of saying that the local community didn't object, but how could we when we weren't informed or given the information to object? Since the very first letter we have had absolutely no correspondence from Network Rail whatsoever regarding our concerns.

We as locals are going to be greatly inconvenienced by the work which will be undertaken and with lorries carrying stone and heavy machinery etc. using the local roads. Rockley Lane and Holme Lane are nothing more than single track roads. The junction of Rockley Lane with the A19 is notoriously bad. I would question the report Network Rail had commissioned on their behalf regarding this junction and where they state there a few accidents here. Surely a report commissioned by Network Rail is always going to favour their position as employer? We were willing to put up with this for the benefit of the Scheme, however, it has made us question Network Rail's integrity when they have ridden roughshod over us locals and 'gone behind our backs' on several matters and on more than one occasion.

Yours faithfully,

Michelle Spoor