

REPORT TO PICKMERE PARISH COUNCIL

6 December 2016

AGENDA ITEM 8.1 - HS2 - ROUTE REFINEMENT CONSULTATION 2016

1 Background

1.1 This consultation sets out seven of the proposed changes to Phase 2b of the proposed HS2 route, which includes changes to the section closest to Pickmere.

1.2 The Consultation document is attached; reference should be made particularly to section 2.2 *Route between Middlewich and Pickmere* and its related plan.

1.3 Your Clerk has received a hard copy of this document together with other related documents, including more detailed plans. In addition, there are documents which relate to a concurrent Property Consultation, as well as the response forms to the consultation as a whole.

2 The proposed Scheme changes

2.1 Arising from apparent concerns raised about ground conditions in the Middlewich-Pickmere section of the route, and also other responses to the previous consultation exercise, the line of the route has been altered such that it is:

- closer to eastern Northwich;
- closer to parts of Lostock Gralam;
- slightly further from Higher Wincham and the built-up part of Pickmere.

2.2 Between the River Dane Valley to the south and where it crosses M6, the HS2 would now be raised onto a series of embankments - "generally 3-15m high" and viaducts over floodplains "with a maximum height of 23m over the Peover Eye floodplain".

2.3 No drawings or visuals are provided of these embankments or viaducts.

2.4 The Council is asked "Do you support the proposal to change the alignment and raise the route through the Cheshire salt plains?"

3 Property Consultation

3.1 This consultation relates to the nature of the property compensation and assistance schemes Government is proposing to introduce along the route. The documents and related plans identify several different categories of property, depending on proximity to the proposed line, and proposes how compensation will apply to each category. Responses are requested to the nature of the proposed compensation scheme and to the detailed boundaries that are proposed in relation to each compensation category.

4 Deadline for responses

4.1 The deadline for responses in each case is 23.45hr. on 9 March 2017.

5 Recommendation

5.1 That your Council considers what action to take in response to the consultations.

Jack Steel
Clerk to Parish Council