



## **Camden Cutting Group Public Meeting- 29 May 2012**

### **The Forge, Delancey Street**

Dick Booth gave an introduction for the meeting and the purpose of the evenings meeting.

Robert Latham gave an overview of HS2 progress to date and the timeline going forward.

Kate Macmillan gave a background of what the Camden Cutting Group Interim Steering Group has been doing to date.

#### **Q&A:**

Ken Garland of Albert Street stated that we are in danger of already being buried in detail. There will be disruption of work and displacement of people. He has been long involved in protest to deal with issues such as these and is willing to do the same. Subversive action is required and would welcome people to join him to deal with HS2 in this way.

Queries were raised over heritage issues in the area.

Members of the Interim Steering Group have met with English Heritage to discuss the heritage issues along the cutting. English Heritage were very instrumental with Crossrail.

Queries were raised about the extent of the demolition. There are site allocations proposals as part of the LB Camden Core Strategy which shows part of the cutting allocated for redevelopment.

Stephen de Winter of Tintern House advised that the sheds in the cutting are going to be demolished in any event.

Carol Bower of Mornington Terrace advised that Frank Dobson is very concerned with the loss of heritage in the area and suggested it would be good to understand how much strength an objection from English Heritage would be.

Simon Watney of Albert Street stated that he teaches heritage and is an advisor to the Diocese. He is generally in favour of HS2 however is concerned with the impact of the material that needs to be removed and taken out. His preference would be for the soil to be transported by train.

Yvonne Byne-Maddick of Mornington Terrace enquired if the houses along side of the cutting would start moving.

Dick Booth advised that an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) will be undertaken and the results will go to Parliament in 2013. Subsidence is one of the areas covered in the EIA.

It is visible that the roads either side of the cutting are already suffering from subsidence and some of the houses. Resurfacing on Mornington Terrace has been done recently which covers some of the issues on Mornington Terrace. Park Village East subsidence issues are more obvious.



Cllr Naylor advised that as soon as it goes through Parliament next year it will be law. Its important that we feed into the EIA through HS2.

Cllr Tuliq commented that when she met with Alison Munroe, she was surprised how ignorant Alison Munroe was of the issues. They are forced to respond to the issues raised.

Robert Latham queried how HS2 is going to be financed. Phase 1 is projected to cost £17bn. Have not been told where the money is coming from. Politicians claim it will be through planning gain, such as the redevelopment of Euston station.

Questions were asked about the particular dangers of diffing in clat.

John Malpass of Mornington Terrace advised that he worked on the Channel Tunnel. The work is likely to be noisy for hours on end.

Sandra Nicholls of Mornington Place suggested that we should make a list of things we would like as a community e.g. safe pedestrian route to Regents Park, safe cycle routes etc.

Penny Jones of Albert Street queried if a train that travels on air could be possible and if HS2 would be an old fashioned method of transport when it eventually is operational.

Cllr Naylor advised the costs of HS2 amounts in the region of £1000/m and we should be fighting to get the costs down.

Mike Dowd of Parkway advised that the original cutting was built in 1836. Blue clay was discovered then and it bent and ended up costing three times as much as the budget.

Alex Keane of Albert Street queried why is it coming to Euston and queried why have the alternatives not been pursued?

There was speculation that the attraction comes from the planning gain.

Guy Burkill of Park Village East commented that the £17bn budget is not going to be spent evenly and asked if anyone knew the cost of the Camden Cutting section only?

Ken Garland of Albert Street stated that if anyone is under the illusion of our Government they shouldn't be. In 1940 Lord Socket tore down all the railings to build guns with them however they weren't able to be used. Governments make wrong decisions and we shouldn't be so trusting.

Dick Booth thanked attendees for their time and urged attendees to complete the contact form. In the next month the Interim Steering Group intend to meet, dissolve themselves and form a new steering group from volunteers from the evenings meeting.