

MEETING MINUTES 27TH MARCH

1. News/Updates

1.1. Reaction to meeting at Blackburn Hall

All agreed that the meeting went well at Blackburn Hall and the greater-than-expected turnout showed the level of feeling across the community. The DVD showing a 3D view of Phase I is available to view. The creator is looking to produce something similar for Phase II so if you have any photos/video of the route to contribute, please get in touch.

1.2. Progress since last meeting

A copy of a letter composed by John Beattie was distributed. John has done some number-crunching highlighting alternatives of where the money being spent on HS2 could be spent elsewhere. It was agreed that some of the ideas could be used on leaflets and banners.

The PAYPAL account is now set up and documents have been signed to complete the application for the Lloyds TSB bank account. £200 has been collected so far and donations continue to come in.

Geoff Battison brought in some mock-ups of banner and posters using some of the suggestions put forward by John Beattie. Geoff said that he would cover cost of the production of these. It was suggested that for advertising we should focus on using the STOP HS2 branding which is more widely recognised, and stick to the SO WHAT branding for our webpage, Facebook and Twitter communications. All agreed this was a practical suggestion.

Cllr Golton has been trying to organise a meeting with Tim Riordan, Chief Executive of Leeds City Council and representatives from HS2. A date was set for the meeting however this is when Cllr Golton is away. Unfortunately, the meeting is still progressing and METRO are now attending as well. There was irritation/concern that our meeting has been hijacked and our concerns would no longer be effectively raised. Instead the meeting will focus on how to progress HS2 in Leeds.

Standard EHS suggested responses will be put on the website. All are urged to respond to the consultation and encourage friends and family to respond as well.

Matthew Howarth from Gordons Solicitors has offered to speak to the committee free of charge to provide some legal guidance. All agreed it would be useful if he attend a future meeting.



1.3. Royal Armouries Business Event – 25th April

The chief executive of HS2 Ltd. is speaking at the above event. Some committee members already have tickets for the event and propose to ask some direct questions. It is also proposed to demonstrate outside with banners. If you can attend the demonstration please get in touch.

2. Communications plan – Louise Drake

Louise distributed a 'Plan on a Page' and a 'Contact Plan' outlining our priorities and proposing suggestions on how we can market ourselves. Louise suggested than 3 subgroups should be formed to move the plan forward; Marketing; Finance; and Policy.

The plans will be added to the website and if you would like to be involved, please get in touch.