

Re. Proposed Network Rail Stalybridge / Diggle [Saddleworth] Enhancement Order

Public enquiry Statement of Case

Please see below the reasons for my objection to the use of the location : Mill Ln. , Archer St. and Brookfields as identified in NR12 - Route Drawing 08 within the TWAO application.

I would like to make it clear that I am not against the improvements to the line and welcome the new facilities. I also understand that there will be some disruption in the area surrounding the new station site.

My house is on [REDACTED] and the proposed compound, within the TWOA red line boundary, runs along the gable end of our row, which would deny us access to that side of our properties.

It is pedestrian access only on both sides of Tame View which means myself and my neighbours have no alternative but to park on Mill lane and walk to our homes.

Mill Lane is already overcrowded as Archer St residents also have to use it for parking as their street is overcrowded too.

Archer St. and all the other streets off Mill Ln. on the south side are NOT accessible to bin waggons or fire engines, so how can it be acceptable to say it should be used by construction traffic? Any vehicle larger than a small van cannot physically turn from Mill Ln. onto Archer St. as the corner is too tight and Mill Ln. too narrow.

What is being proposed is going to make dangerous and overcrowded roads even worse. Mill lane is extremely steep and narrow and cars and vans have to drive on the footpath just to pass each other. THIS HAPPENS EVERY DAY, especially around School drop off times when children are actually on the footpaths. It is especially concerning as it's the only vehicle access to the school.

The residents in this area have not been given specific details of the work to be carried out on Brookfields, other than the plans for a new East bound platform, but they have said they need the whole of the Brookfields site which is far bigger than the platform.

So why is the rest of the site necessary to the planned work?

Or do they have a use for it that they have not divulged due to the threat of even more opposition?

When questioned they say they need the acquisition of Archer st.for access of a small digger and staff on foot, which would mean taking dozens of parking places outside the Archer St. houses and mill lane.

Where would these displaced residents park?

There is no available alternative.

Also all plant and equipment would have to come down and back up Mill lane, due to the low railway bridge and bend at the bottom, which is extremely unsafe. TMBC put a sign at the top of Mill lane. UNSUITABLE FOR LARGE VEHICLES, when it was needed for a diversion route.

These measures were not necessary recently when they took a drilling rig on site with a caterpillar driven vehicle and numerous staff.

Why is it necessary now if that is all they're planning to do?

Or is there more planned that we haven't been told yet?

There is already a large compound and available unused land in between the existing track and Manchester rd. which could be used instead of the wholly inappropriate land on the other side of the track i.e. Brookfields.

Yours sincerely

Mr R Muir

[REDACTED]