Questions for HS2 from Kings Bromley Parish Council

1. The Letters to Kings Bromley Residents

Residents to the south of the village in Victoria Meadow, Alrewas Rd. South, Lant Close etc. are worried that the letters they have received from HS2 infer that some of their land will be lost to compulsory purchase.

*Can HS2 explain what the letters mean and how the movement of services will affect residents?

2. Closure of Common Lane

This is causing extreme concern. Closure would mean that farm vehicles and vehicles delivering to and from the industrial units at Woodgate would be forced to use Crawley Lane past the school entrance – already considered a potential accident site. The 100-year-old Kings Bromley Show uses Crawley Lane as an entrance and Common Lane as an exit: having to use Crawley Lane as both entrance and exit would cause such congestion that it may not be possible to continue with the show. As well as vehicles, cyclists, runners and walkers all use Common Lane as part of the only circular road route from Kings Bromley: its loss would be a serious loss of amenity.

*How will HS2 compensate houses and businesses in Crawley Lane/ Common Lane blighted by the closure of Common Lane and the construction/quarrying works?

*Why, in view of the problems caused, cannot a tunnel under the HS2 embankment/viaduct be constructed so as to keep Common Lane open?

4. Borrow Pits

- *Will access to the borrow pits be along haul roads or existing roads?
- *What does 'Consolidated Construction Boundary' mean?
- *The County Council Minerals Plan (2015-2030) states that no quarrying is to take place in the 'Area of Search' until the existing mothballed quarry at Manor Park is restored. Will HS2 have to abide by the same constraint? If not, why not?
- *What will be the effect on public footpaths?

5. Temporary Works

*What does 'temporary' mean with respect to materials stockpiles and employee accommodation?

6. Magnitude of Environmental Impact.

*How can HS2 include borrow pits, such as that at Princes Farm, that are outside of the 'Area of Search': this is defined as the only area where quarrying can take place according to Staffordshire's Minerals Plan?

*Will HS2 quarrying have to minimise the environmental impact according to Policy 4 of the Council's Minerals Plan which addresses noise, air quality, visual amenity, vibration, traffic on the highway network, public rights of way and public open space, Green Belt, the countryside, landscape, natural environment, historic environment, agricultural land, stability of land, flood risk, land contamination and cumulative impacts in a locality? If not, why would HS2 quarrying be treated differently from 'normal' quarrying? And will operations be restricted to socially acceptable hours-8am to 5pm?

7. HCV Traffic.

*Will the commitment to no HS2 traffic travelling through Kings Bromley be held to? Will this be enforced by the erection of 'No HS2 traffic's igns and the clear marking of HS2 vehicles and contractors', vehicles?

8. Impact on Local Economy

*Will consideration be given to prioritising local businesses or providing employment opportunities to local residents when contracts are awarded?

Unless satisfactory answers to these questions are received Kings Bromley Parish Council will, in association with other Parishes, the District Council and the County Council consider formal petitioning.