



HS2

Peter Charles
The Chiltern Society

Great Kingshill Residents' Association
19th September 2010

THIS EVENING I WILL



- **Show the short-listed routes**
- **Concentrate on route 2.5 (the ‘preferred alternative’)**
- **Advise the Chiltern Society's position - and why we have taken it**
- **Explain our aims**
- **Tell you what you can do to help**

The short list!



Three cross-Chilterns routes identified:

Preferred route (Route 3):

From West Ruislip, across the Colne Valley Park and across the Chilterns through tunnels, cuttings and over a viaduct to Wendover, continuing to the west of Aylesbury and beyond

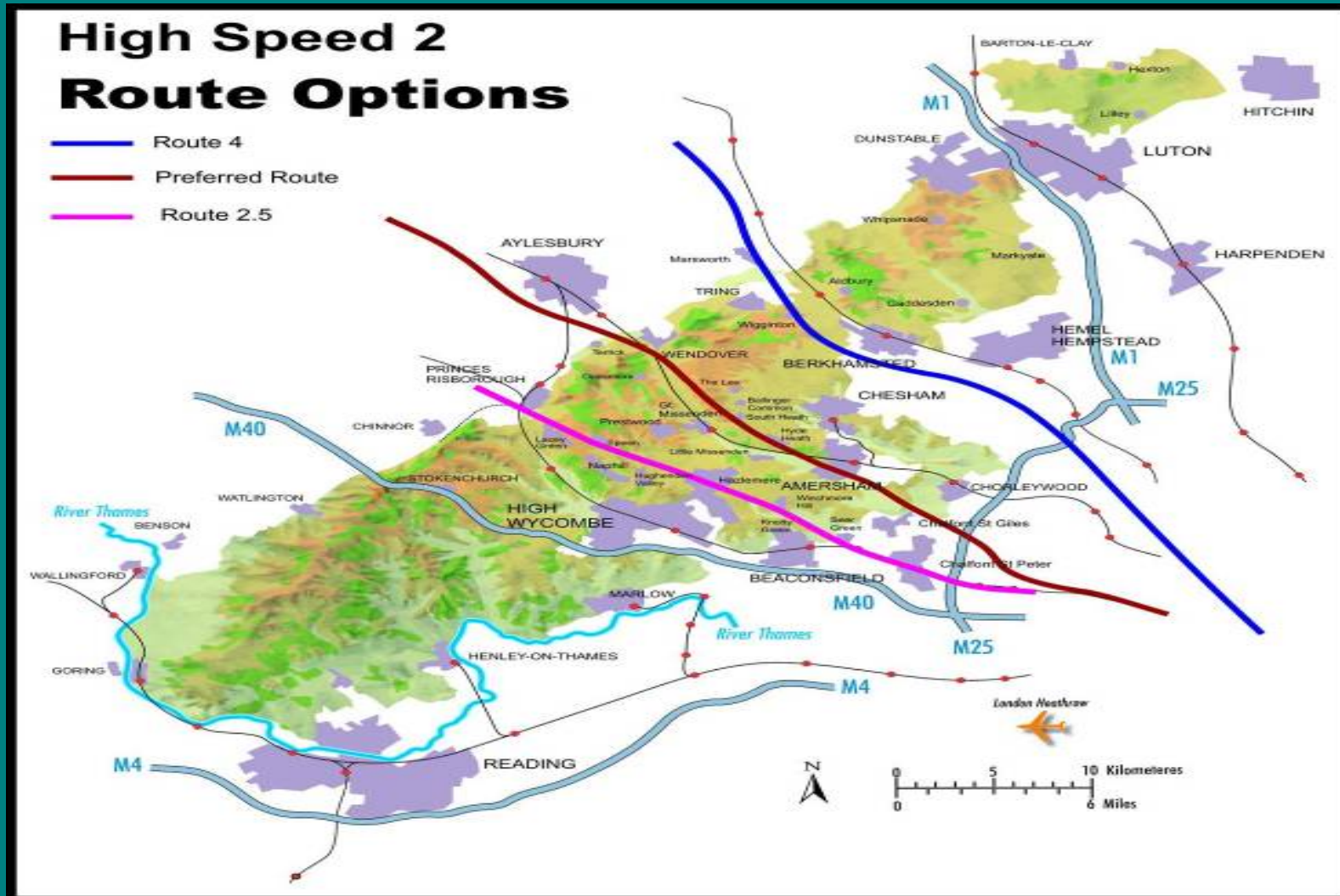
Preferred Alternative (Route 2.5):

From West Ruislip along the Chiltern Line towards Denham, crossing the Chilterns utilising tunnels, cuttings, embankments and viaducts before leaving the Chilterns to the west of Princes Risborough

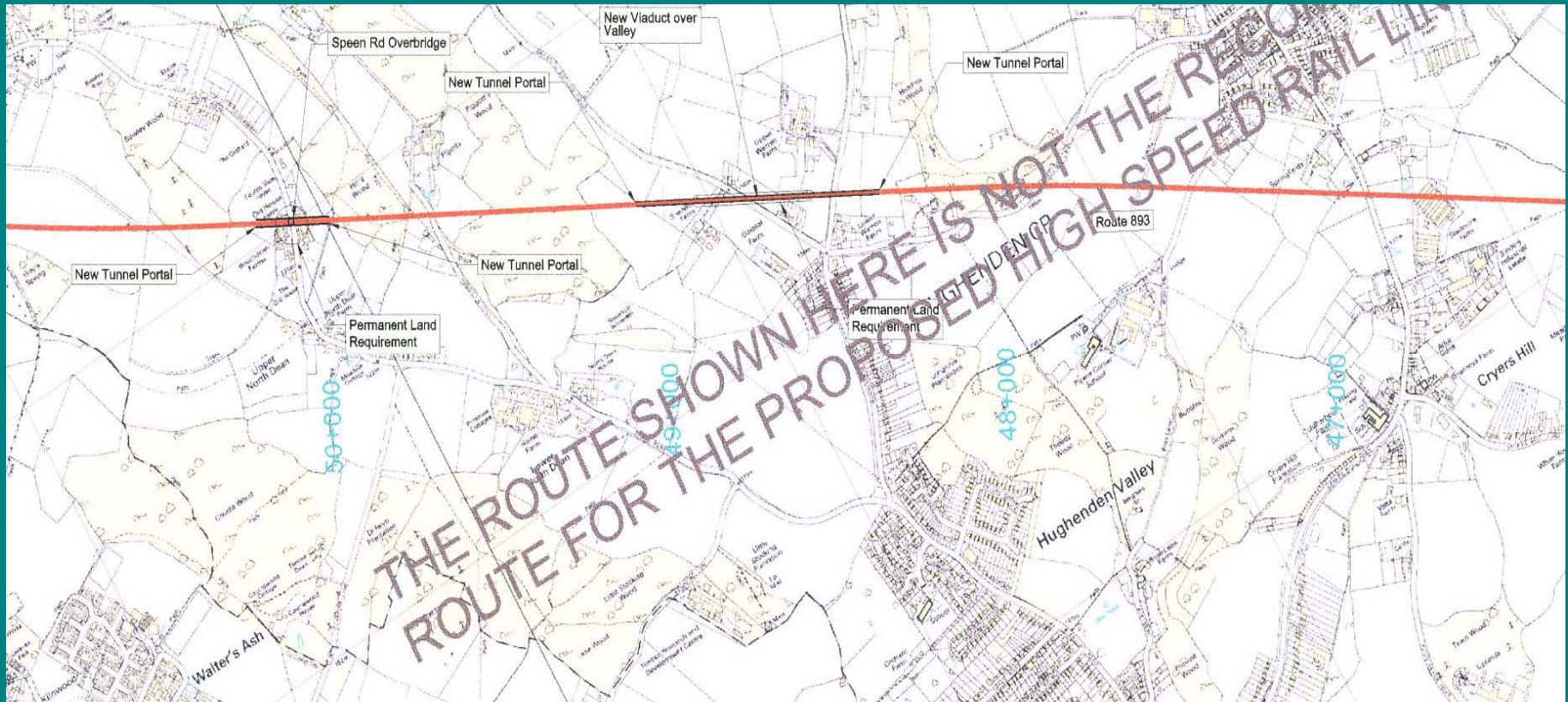
Alternative (Route 4):

Enters the Chilterns in the Kings Langley area and follows the West Coast Main Line Corridor across the Chilterns

The short list!



Route 2.5



“Preferred Alternative Route” - the one that most impacts our village

Worst case scenario for our village

- Tunnel would go under outskirts of village
- Route would go over new viaduct at bottom of Hatches Lane and would ruin Hughenden Valley
- Major disruption to locality as tunnel and viaduct are constructed
- Tunnel would require air vents
- Vibration – possibly as often as every 4 minutes

How close to the village? - estimates

- The middle of tunnel would be **36 metres** from the last house on Pipers Lane
- The middle of the tunnel would be **174 metres** from the entrance to Limmers Mead
- The middle of tunnel would be within **300 metres** from the last houses on Hatches Lane

Proposed timetable

- **Autumn 2010:** Formal public consultation on HS2 proposals including preferred route
- **2011:** Government decision on future of HS2 and preferred route for London to Birmingham section
- **2011-2013:** Detailed design and assessment of the preferred route
- **2013:** Further public consultation
- **2014:** Hybrid Bill laid in House of Commons
- **2019:** Possible start of construction
- **2026:** Line between London and Birmingham could open

Chiltern Society's Position - 1



- **CS Trustees have agreed that the Society should oppose any cross - Chilterns route**
- **'Chilterns' in this case means the Society's area – which is twice as big as the Chilterns AONB**
- **We are not against the concept of High Speed Rail in principle, but –**
 - **We strongly believe that the case for an HS2 route across the Chilterns has not been proven**

Chiltern Society's Position - 2



- The proposals will not merely threaten the unspoilt beauty of whichever Chilterns valley through which it is routed
- The proposals will not merely threaten the unspoilt beauty of the AONB
- The proposals will not merely threaten the unspoilt beauty of the whole area of the Chilterns
- If implemented, the proposals **will** threaten any protected landscape – National Parks and other AONBs

The Society's Primary Objective



**Promote the Chilterns as a jewel in the
English landscape**

and to –

**Campaign successfully against proposals for
a High Speed rail route across the Chilterns**

Campaign Strategy



- **Based on sound argument and analysis and effective lobbying**
- **Effective participation in the forthcoming debate about the strategic case for HSR in the UK**
- **Liaise effectively with local groups and other organisations (up and down the line)**
- **Compile a comprehensive proposal/bid for mitigation measures that would help to offset the harm caused by any new HSR route across the Chilterns**

Linking with other groups



- Campaign to Protect Rural England
- Chiltern Countryside Group
- Chilterns Conservation Board
- County, District and Parish Councils
- HS2 Action Alliance
- National Trust

What has been decided ?



- All major parties, including the Coalition Government, support the concept of HS rail
- The Coalition Government has ruled out a third runway at Heathrow
- A study on linking HS2 to Heathrow concluded that it would cost too much money
- Very recently, the Chancellor confirmed that funding for HS2 would be available
- He added that, on completion of Crossrail, it would be logical to move expertise to HS2

Do not:



- Listen to those hopefuls who think that the country cannot afford it
- Have nightmares about HS2 ruining the village
- But, above all, do not do nothing!

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP



- Keep the pressure on your MP and write to the Secretary of State for Transport
- Write to your County, District or Parish Councillor - or all of them!
- Add your name to the 'Stop HS2' petition – there is a link on the village web site
- Give active support to one of the key organisations
- Contribute to a Fighting Fund
- Contribute to the Chiltern Society's campaign fund – **which is ring-fenced for HS2**

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- **... and gets Gift Aid added to your contribution**

Contact Details



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**No cross-
Chilterns route**

**Join the Chiltern
Society**