Note on Sewer Diversion

The sewer diversion was proposed in an “additional provision” to the HS2 Bill in 2015. The original proposal would have involved little disturbance of the Scrubs but this was superseded by a proposal that took the diversion across part of the Scrubs. We petitioned Parliament against this and urged them to stick with the original route. We tried extremely hard to discover exactly why the new route was necessary but it was not until David Jeffreys and Miriam Shea, also reps of LBHF, met HS2 with their engineer for a demonstration of why the route had to take the course proposed that we were given any detailed explanation. Despite now being close to the hearing date of our petition it turned out they had had been sitting on this information for some time. LBHF supported us but we had no survey or engineer’s report to demonstrate the feasibility of an alternative route. The LBHF rep did come up with something which was dismissed as unworkable. In the end he accepted that the HS2 proposal was the only realistic solution. The diversion was needed because of the building of Old Oak Common station and the Crossrail depot and it turned out that there were numerous manholes that had to be avoided in addition to the IEP depot just north of the Scrubs. If anyone wants to see our petition and HS2’s response, it is now on our website.

19 October 2020