



## **SELAG Supporters' Spring 2019 Newsletter**

### **News Update**

A crack has appeared in the solid support all the Leicestershire councils have given to the A46 Expressway. Following the local elections in May there is now a new leader of Harborough District Council, Phil King, who is openly challenging the need for the road.

However, two planning proposals threaten new junctions on the M69 and the M1 which could be used by the Expressway from the south. The Hinckley National Freight Interchange project seeks an access from junction 2 of the M69 and the 3,500 houses on Whetstone Pastures need a complete new junction close to the intersection of the M1 and the A426. Should planning applications for these projects be successful the Expressway will have gained a useful launch pad.

More clues to the areas affected by the Expressway may emerge this summer from the next report of its instigator, Midlands Connect, but a definitive route is not expected.

### **Supporting SELAG**

SELAG continues to tell local politicians and Leicestershire's MPs that there is no proven need for the road and that the housing needs can be met without damaging forever much of the county's most delightful countryside. But more needs to be done to alert residents to the threat the Expressway poses. Hence SELAG has been working closely with the CPRE and other groups opposing the road. Our posters in villages and our car stickers are part of this drive but we need to extend awareness and find the means to oppose and then scupper this unwanted road. More recruits to swell the SELAG numbers will help so please do set yourself a target of recruiting at least two new supporters by the end of the summer but we would ask you also to consider a donation to fund SELAG's campaign.

### **Donations**

Running costs for SELAG have been calculated to be in the region of £6000 annually. This sum covers expert consultants, printing and publicity, developing the website, legal and accountancy fees, hire of meeting halls etc. And for the future we may need to build a fund that will enable SELAG to be represented by the best lawyers and environment experts at a future public hearing. A donation of any size will be most welcome but whether it be £10, £25, £50, £100 or more it will assist the campaign to be better focused and more effective. Should there be a surplus when the campaign ends (hopefully successfully) monies remaining in the fund will be distributed to the CPRE or other similar causes. Cheques should be made out to SELAG and sent to Jan Vaughan, Hon. Treasurer, SELAG, Stretton Leys, Gartree Road, Great Stretton, LE2 2FR

### **Stop Press**

Watch BBC 1 Sunday Politics 12 noon this Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June where our Chairman, Philip Bland, is interviewed in a report about the A46 Expressway and the Strategic Growth Plan