

Angela Foster

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From: Andrew Sallis
Sent: 29 May 2018 14:12
To: TRANSPORTANDWORKSACT
Subject: Objection to Rother Valley Railway (Bodiam to Robertsbridge Order)

Dear Secretary of State,

As a family, we strongly object to the proposed CPO and development of Rother Valley Railway through privately owned farmland from Bodiam to Robertsbridge in East Sussex.

We lived in Battle, the neighbouring town, for many years until my career took us to Buckinghamshire last year. Indeed, my wife worked in Salehurst which would be directly affected by the proposed land grab. We still have many friends in the Robertsbridge and Salehurst area whose lives are being cruelly affected by this project.

I can see no merit to the CPO other than to satisfy the obsession of a group of wealthy hobby railway enthusiasts. Their economic argument is spurious under examination, now admitted by RVR. Furthermore, the unnecessary environmental damage to beautiful farmland with rare species would be a disgrace. Lack of parking, increased traffic issues on the A21 and Junction Road would create problems too.

I struggle to see why this hugely divisive issue has been allowed to get this far. If it had the support of the families who would lose precious land to a recreational railway then it would have more credence. As it is, RVR are displaying bullying, land grabbing tactics more reminiscent of medieval times.

Yours faithfully,

Andrew Sallis

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