

Angela Foster

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From: Rupert Newcomb
Sent: 29 May 2018 14:07
To: TRANSPORTANDWORKSACT
Cc: amber.rudd.mp@parliament.uk; cllr.keith.glazier@eastsussex.gov.uk
Subject: Rother Valley Railway (Bodiam to Robertsbridge Junction) Order

Dear Sir,

I am writing to you to object to the Transport for Works Act Order and subsequent Compulsory Purchase Order for Rother Valley Railway to acquire land owned by two families to join the existing line at Bodiam to Robertsbridge for the following reasons:

- It is my understanding that a CPO can only be issued to purchase land / buildings for the purpose of constructing an essential infrastructure such as a new road or railway that will have a benefit to the greater population. I fail to see that a tourist line such as this RVR line carrying steam and diesel trains to and from Tenterden and Robertsbridge counts as essential infrastructure.
- I think that it is absolute madness to introduce a level crossing allowing a steam (or diesel) train to cross over a main arterial route such as the A21. I find it astonishing on two counts. Firstly, as you know, the A21 has just had a new stretch of duelling between Castle Hill (Tonbridge) and North Farm (Tunbridge Wells) and there are calls for the remaining A21 to be duelled all the way down to Hastings from your esteemed colleagues such as Amber Rudd and Huw Merriman. Secondly, the delays caused by such a level crossing will cause absolute chaos for motorists, especially on the first May bank holiday.
- I myself live in Robertsbridge and parking in the village is bad enough with commuters who come in to the village and park wherever they can to avoid parking and paying at Robertsbridge station. This situation will only be made worse by the thousands of tourists who RVR say will come to the village and do the same thing.

I understand that there are far greater powers in operation here, but feel that if the "Common Man" can't get his voice heard and potentially listened to by the one man in the country who has the power to act in favour of all "Common Men", then perhaps this Great Britain is not so Great after all.

Yours sincerely,

Rupert Newcomb



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