

**From:** Nigel Guest  
**Sent:** 22 May 2018 09:56  
**To:** TRANSPORTANDWORKSACT  
**Subject:** Re: Rother Valley Railway (Bodiam to Robertsbridge Junction) Order

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to make you aware of my objections to the above proposal.

- The residents of Robertsbridge were devastated by flooding in the years around 2001. They fought hard to get flood defences installed and millions of pounds were spent on building and maintaining these. There has been no major flooding since then. The proposed railway would travel across flooding fields and could increase the risks to our houses and roads.
- The A21 is a very busy main road that runs to Hastings and is used extensively for leisure and business. Millions were spent recently to improve the road by making it dual carriageway at Pembury. Despite this the road is notoriously slow and dangerous and a level crossing would increase delays and drivers' frustrations. The level crossing further on the A2100 stops for 3 minutes for every train! I hate to imagine what the queues on the A21 would be. There are also pedestrian traffic lights just the other side of the roundabout which will only make things worse. Add to this the level crossing on Northbridge Street in the village and one wonders what affect this will have on air pollution!
- The 2 farms that will be severely affected have been there for centuries and how can a small railway for a few wealthy enthusiasts be allowed to affect the farmer and their families so negatively now and for the future? The railway that was there was closed (before Beeching) because of lack of use.
- Robertsbridge already suffers from terrible congestion at times and illegal parking. I am not convinced about how many people will want to use the railway here but any extra visitors will worsen the situation.
- Finally, what arrogance they have displayed by already spending hundreds of thousands of even millions of pounds on a project that did not have approval and would affect so many residents and road users.

There are enough 'heritage' railways around the area and I fail to see the need for this extension to the line. I have never heard anyone say I wish this line ran to Robertsbridge!

Yours faithfully

Nigel Guest