

**From:** Lucinda Fraser  
**Sent:** 24 May 2018 14:27  
**To:** TRANSPORTANDWORKSACT  
**Subject:** Rother Vally Railway East Sussex Robertsbridge

Dear Sirs

I am writing to object to the proposal to extend the line between Bodiam and Robertsbridge for the steam train.

#### A21

The stretch of the A 21 for the proposed railway crossing is already considered by a published government report as one of the most dangerous stretches of road in the country . Cars already drive extremely dangerously along this road and creating a level crossing would increase the risk of further accidents.

During the summer months ( when the steam train would be working ), this is one of the main roads to the coast and there are already very large volumes of traffic over weekends and bank holidays. Being forced to stop at a level crossing would cause huge traffic issues to already existing tailbacks.

The A21 is also the main commuter route between Hastings and Tunbridge Wells/Tonbridge which means it is busy every day.

This is the main route to Hastings which is already popular and a growing tourist attraction of the SOuth East which the government has made significant investment in.

#### Flooding

There has been a major issue with flooding in the area of Robertsbridge for a number of years, to build a rail track on flood land will intensify the problem and makes a mockery of the anti flood defences which have been put in to try to help the problem.

#### Carpark/Economic Benefit

Robertsbridge is a village with very little infrastructure and there is certainly not the capacity for 50,000 visitors the RVR predict.

The railway carpark is already full on a daily basis with commuters.

Northbridge street is a very narrow high street and a level crossing across would cause huge disruption to the local community and local businesses.

There is no job creation in Robertsbridge as a result of this project, as only volunteers are being used and as the RVR themselves state "any benefits being away from Robetsbridge."

#### CPO

How can a A CPO be justified, especially on farming land with huge environmental diversity ? It is also within the AONB of the High Weald. DEFRA plans as set out by Michael Gove are to increase the environmental aspect of our countryside, so therefore why destroy an existing environmental habitat ? It is an area of land which has been maintained and nurtured for generations, please do not sacrifice this piece of ancient countryside to satisfy a few steam enthusiasts who by the way do not even live anywhere near the area.

Yours sincerely  
Lucinda Fraser