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Shenaz Choudhary

From: TransportSecretary
Sent: 24 April 2018 09:58
To: PO Correspondence
Subject: FW: Rother valley Railway extension

Importance: High

Nicolas Turner | Diary Manager and Assistant Private Secretary, Secretary of State for Transport, Department for Transport
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From: GRAYLING, Chris [mailto:chris.grayling.mp@parliament.uk]
Sent: 24 April 2018 09:57
To: TransportSecretary
Subject: FW: Rother valley Railway extension
Importance: High

From: graham white
Sent: 23 April 2018 22:16
To: GRAYLING, Chris <chris.grayling.mp@parliament.uk>
Subject: Rother valley Railway extension
Importance: High

For the attention of the Secretary of State.

Rt Hon Chris Grayling MP,

Dear Sir,

I am writing to object to the proposed extension of the Rother Valley railway to Robertsbridge. It would appear that this application serves no benefit to Robertsbridge and its residents. Having had a close association with Robertsbridge for many years and knowing the farmland and area well I know for a fact that the original line no longer exists and that this would in reality be a new application. Having worked adjacent to the main line in Station road in the late seventies early eighties in the days of the diesel trains; I can vouch for the benefits that the residents have received by electrifying the line. The hideous noise and fumes in those days were a real blot on the lives of residents and local workers. To bring back old ways, noises and pollution to the now clean and peaceful village would be a crime. The A21 has now been improved and runs past the village, not through it; to install a level crossing would damage the flow of traffic, which at last is in keeping with the needs of our modern developing south east. Any more disruption to the flow of traffic would impact on neighbouring villages and towns as traffic would bunch up and swamp these local areas on mass as they passed through after being held up at the proposed crossing.

The local environment will be damaged for no good reason and to no benefit to the village of Robertsbridge; valuable farm land will be disturbed and in some cases destroyed.

The proposed level crossing goes against policy, where it has been stated by government that their use should be limited and where possible removed as they are dangerous.

Please, we need to stop this proposed development for the above reasons and to protect this beautiful village and its surrounding land and wildlife.

This village already has problems with flooding and does not need more; clearly development work on a large scale would impact upon drainage of an area that is very low with a relatively high water table in comparison. Flood defences that have been installed to protect the vulnerable parts of the village after severe flooding in years past would not cope with more pressure.

Your faithfully

Graham White

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