

From: Alison Pearson
Sent: 11 May 2018 18:57
To: TRANSPORTANDWORKSACT
Subject: FAO The Secretary of State for Transport re RVR Objection

Dear Mr Grayling MP,

I, Alison Pearson, am writing to object to the planned extension of the Rother Valley Railway (RVR) extension through to Robertsbridge.

I have listed my objections below.

- There is **no compelling case for Compulsory Purchase powers** to be used to acquire land for **non essential** infrastructure/hobby railway.
- There are **no tangible economic benefits** to surrounding area. RVR have also admitted that Robertsbridge would not benefit from this project.
- A total of **three new level crossings**, one of which will be across the busy **A21**. This will cause **huge disruption** to motorists and is contrary to the Government's and Network Rail's policy to remove as many level crossings as possible as they are deemed to be dangerous. The A21 can be a nightmare for traffic congestion at the best of times and millions has been spent to make it work better. How can it be a good idea to plonk a level crossing right across it?
- **Flooding risk**. Reports show increased flooding potential to properties in and around Robertsbridge and Salehurst. These have not been mitigated. I have seen photos of one of the fields to be affected completely flooded. RVR want to build a massive embankment across it, where will the water go? to the village.
- **Destruction of habitats** on Moat farm that have been untouched for decades.
- This is a new railway not a reinstatement as claimed by RVR. **The track bed does not exist any longer.**
- **Requests for a public enquiry** as the documents appear to be inadequate/out of date.
- Noise, smoke and **diesel fume pollution** from the trains and emissions from cars held up at the level crossings.

Please listen to all the objectors, who believe it would be wrong, for so many reasons, for this project to go through. I have spent some time on one of the farms at the centre of the controversy, it is the most beautiful place.

Kind regards
Alison Pearson