## Shenaz Choudhary

Rep/12.

From:

Jerry Shirky

Sent:

21 May 2018 17:32

To:

**TRANSPORTANDWORKSACT** 

Subject:

RE: proposed recreational rail crossing of A21 at Robertsbridge

Thanks Ms Choudhary,

Jerry Shirky

From: TRANSPORTANDWORKSACT [mailto:TRANSPORTANDWORKSACT@dft.gov.uk]

Sent: 14 May 2018 15:29

To: Jerry Shirky; TRANSPORTANDWORKSACT

Subject: RE: proposed recreational rail crossing of A21 at Robertsbridge

Dear Mr Shirky,

Thank you for your e-mail. In order to register your comments as a representation, we do require a full postal address as the address below does not include your door number.

Many thanks Shenaz Choudhary

Ms Shenaz Choudhary | Transport Works Act Order, Department for Transport 1/14 | 020 7944 6848 |

From: Jerry Shirky

Sent: 11 May 2018 17:32

**To:** TRANSPORTANDWORKSACT < TRANSPORTANDWORKSACT@dft.gov.uk > **Subject:** proposed recreational rail crossing of A21 at Robertsbridge

To whom it may concern;

I read with interest the short article in the local 'Observer' paper regarding the proposed rail crossing of A21 highway at Robertsbridge.

Having been a resident living on some observations.

in Robertsbridge since 1997, I feel qualified to make

Responding to the RVR spokesperson as quoted I must say that the claim of "under 2 minutes" crossing time simply is not credible.

At best it's deliberately misleading. Maybe this is the actual time for the train to cross, but does it really include warning/stop light, then gate down, train crossing and finally time for gates to clear & open up again for traffic to move?

There are many other crossings across South England, and the wait time for many of them is FAR LONGER than that. And to have this Disruption to summertime traffic on this busy road up to 10 times (or is it 16 times as claimed by opponents?) is not to be contemplated!

The point made by same RVR person about the foot crossing is also open to serious question. It is portrayed as a "Busy" crossing. This is a gross mis-representation. I drive many times a week out that circle, yet can count on one hand the times I have seen that crossing activated to stop traffic in all these years. So, fact is it's used VERY little, even for school pupils crossing, which is why it hasn't been a problem.

And even if it WAS used a great deal as is suggested, that would beg the question; Why on earth would you allow ANOTHER crossing immediately on the other side of same round about, thereby doubling traffic disruption at this point?? To me it only strengthens the case against an added Rail crossing.

A final point; RVR currently does NOT have right—of-way to extend their rail down the valley for approximately 1 kilometre directly on the other side of A21! Nor are they likely to get it any time soon. The farmer & sons who purchased the land and former rail bed right-of-way had the rail bed removed years ago and returned to agricultural field, now under intensive cultivation. This current owner is dead-set against granting a new right-of-way to the rail club and says he will never do it.

So what is the point of talking about the highway crossing until this issue is solved? Regards,

Jerry Shirky

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