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From: Terry Hannocks
Sent: 31 May 2018 12:23
To: TRANSPORTANDWORKSACT
Subject: Proposed Other Valley Railway (Bodiam to Robertsbridge Junction) Order

Dear Sirs

I am emailing you to register my **support** for the above Order.

I live nearby to the proposed railway and believe that the granting of the order will have many benefits. Some of the most important are:

- The railway would provide major improvements to tourist transport in an area that relies on tourism. The current road system struggles to cope at the moment (in particular through Hawkhurst) and any relief to road traffic volumes would be very welcome. The railway will provide much improved tourist transport access the area, especially to Bodiam Castle, Great Dixter and Tenterden.
- The railway will allow visitors to the area to see large parts of the AONB which have been inaccessible ever since the old railway was hastily closed in the 1960's. This is because there are no east-west roads along the Rother Valley unlike the railway, which follows the River Rother along its course.
- Significant local economic benefits will be achieved both from increased tourism and employment.
- The commitment to the success of this project by the Rother Valley Railway has already been shown by the significant station and track developments at Robertsbridge. All of these and all future work have, and will be, privately financed. This means that all the economic benefits generated by the scheme will be delivered without any government financial contribution.
- As with all change, there will be objections. However, I consider that the Rother Valley Railway actives have mitigated the major objections and, indeed, changed them to benefits. For example, by committing to create a wild life corridor along the line.

Yours faithfully

Terry Hannocks