

Shenaz Choudhary

SUPP/SL

From: Acorn Clayton
Sent: 21 May 2018 23:59
To: TRANSPORTANDWORKSACT
Subject: Rother Valley Railway (Bodiam to Robertsbridge Junction) Order

I am writing in support of the order to connect the Kent and East Sussex Railway to the Rother Valley Railway with the proposed Bodiam to Robertsbridge Junction.

I live in [redacted] use the A21 daily in each direction, and feel confident that the proposed level crossing would not lead to significant problems.

I have visited both heritage railways with my family, but at present the disconnected parts are not easily accessible by public transport. This scheme will directly improve the connections for visitors from London and beyond to the beautiful Weald area around Tenterden.

This was a railway line in the past, so I feel that the existing long-term landowners are not really being fair or honest when they raise points such as dividing property, or claiming that the land was undisturbed farmland. I also read one claim that it might damage wildlife. This seems unlikely as the wildlife alongside railways is often abundant, in fact during a recent ride from Tenterden to Bodiam, the guard pointed out a swan on her nest, a herd of deer, birds of prey and numerous beautiful natural sights. We will return but would prefer to travel by train from home, changing at Robertsbridge, than to have to drive to Tenterden.

Having witnessed the enormous success of the Bluebell Railway when it re-connected to the main line at East Grinstead, I am very keen for our local area to similarly benefit from the increase in tourism. I wish every success to this proposal and look forward to the extended railway line,

Mrs Acorn Clayton

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