

Angela Foster

Suep/101

From: D & S Nibloe
Sent: 29 May 2018 18:41
To: TRANSPORTANDWORKSACT
Subject: Rother Valley Railway (Bodiam to Robertsbridge Junction) Order

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to convey my SUPPORT for the above Transport and Works Act Order and to urge the Secretary of State to also support this.

I am a resident of Ewhurst living in walking distance from the present Kent & East Sussex railway station at Bodiam. I am also a regular user of Robertsbridge station and the A21 adjacent, visiting the Robertsbridge station each morning and evening transporting my commuting wife to the station.

The railway at Bodiam has a very positive impact on the local community and I am sure the same will be true for Robertsbridge. I believe that the presence of the steam railway in Robertsbridge will bring some needed life to the village and that there will be a positive impact of people arriving by train to link up with the steam railway and exploring the village shops and amenities.

The Kent and East Sussex railway is a very worthwhile organisation providing entertainment and education. It is run extremely professionally and is far from the image of rich people playing with trains that is portrayed by some. Reviews on online portals such as Tripadvisor show how much it is appreciated by visitors. So impressed have I been with the railway organisation that I have recently started volunteering there and have seen the enjoyment and education first hand.

As a trainee guard travelling the length of the existing track several times each week, I see the richness of the wildlife that exists beside the railway. It is not true that wildlife will be blighted by the extension and the Rother Valley Railway are making provisions where advised to in order to minimise or offset any impacts seen.

As a regular user of the A21 and road into Robertsbridge I have no concerns about the level crossings proposed. The A21 crossing will have far less impact than the nearby Flimwell traffic lights, holding the traffic up far less often. The proposed gates are efficient and will ensure delays are minimised.

I urge the Secretary of State to support the application and provide permission for this extension to take place.

Yours faithfully

David Nibloe

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