



Dear Sirs,

**Proposed Closure of Weatherby Railway Crossing**

I wish to express my objection to the planned closure of the Weatherby Railway Crossing and ask you to represent my views to the inquiry. Please pass this letter on to any relevant authorities.

I have lived on the south side of Newmarket for 12 years and regularly use this crossing daily. I see all ages use the crossing as a main link to the town or from the town to the Football Club, Shop or allotments. Many of these people will be seriously disadvantaged if the crossing is closed but are not able to contribute to the objections or do not realise the significance of the inquiry or just consider it a 'done deal' and any representation is superfluous.

Safety is always quoted as the reason for the closure. Yet Network Rail has not proposed any measures which would increase safety, reduce risks but let the crossing continue. Surely just a simple Red light system would do this to alert pedestrians of an approaching train? The trains are either slowing for the station or pulling away from the station and a lower speed limit would not adversely affect their journey but reduce risks?

The local and county authorities have supported a lot of development adjacent to this line in recent years. This is not an infrequently used country walkway but a necessity for local people. I myself use the train station and it is a valued facility for Newmarket but there must be ways in which the interests of local people can be preserved safely albeit with some investment and expense so that both the trains and the footpath can continue together, safely.

Lets not go for the blanket Network Rail 'Health and Safety' reasons but request the Inquiry to investigate alternative measures to preserve this crossing, putting local people first.

Yours sincerely,

Keith Hoddy