

From: Paul Seeley [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 May 2018 17:02
To: TRANSPORTANDWORKSACT
Subject: Rother Valley Railway Petition

Dear Sir or Madam

We wish to petition and register a formal objection against the proposed extension of the RVR extending from Robertsbridge to Bodium.

We live in [REDACTED] Salehurst which backs onto the A21 and although we are use to the road traffic which currently flows past the roundabout at the bottom of our garden. However with the proposed rail crossing on the A21 being only some 160 meters south of the roundabout we have concerns as to the heightened pollution and noise this would directly cause both us and our neighbors. This would also cause heightened congestion (some 14 - 20 road closures per day), adding difficulty in accessing and exiting our home.

We specifically moved to this area for the accessibility to open country side and unimpeded country walks. The development of this railway will have a significant impact on our daily lives due to the closure of several footpaths that we use daily.

Money should not always have the power to do what you want! and the lives of the local community should be seriously considered. Living in the area we believe that the opposition to the railway extension far exceeds the benefits to the local community as apposed.

We also feel that this will increase the carbon footprint in this area, it is important to us as local residents to purchase local produce. Our decision to do this is due to animal welfare, supporting local industry and minimising the carbon footprint. We understand that the local farmers ability to sustainably and economically continue their production will be affected by this proposed Railway line.

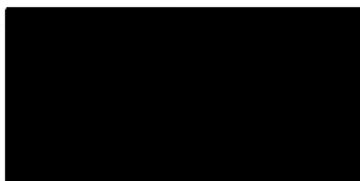
In addition to the above points we also are in agreement with the proposed objections which have been voiced by other members of the local community.

- No compelling case for Compulsory Purchase powers to be used to acquire land for non essential infrastructure/hobby railway.
- No tangible economic benefit to surrounding area. RVR have also admitted that Robertsbridge would not benefit from this project.
- A total of three new level crossings, one of which will be across the busy A21. This will cause huge disruption to motorists and is contrary to the Government's and Network Rail's policy to remove as many level crossings as possible as they are deemed to be dangerous.
- Flooding risk. Reports show increased flooding potential to properties in and around Robertsbridge and Salehurst. These have not been mitigated.
- Destruction of habitats on Moat farm that have been untouched for decades.

- This is a new railway not a reinstatement as claimed by RVR. The track bed does not exist any longer.
- Requests for a public enquiry as the documents appear to be inadequate/out of date.
- Noise, smoke and diesel fume pollution from the trains and emissions from cars held up at the level crossings.

Please count this as two objections

Kind regards
Abigail Turner
Paul Seeley



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