

Caroline O'Neill

06/17/23

From: Lorraine Singer [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 May 2018 07:46
To: TRANSPORTANDWORKSACT
Subject: Rother Valley railway (Bodiam to Robertsbridge junction) Order

Dear Secretary for Transport,

I strongly object to the proposed plans for the extension of the existing steam railway to connect to Robertsbridge. My reasons are as follows;

1. Devastation of natural flood plains.

Large embankments will be needed to support the tracks, carving up and leaving small pockets of unusable and inaccessible land. To bring the track up to the proposed crossing of the A21 the embankments will need to be at least 6 metres in height. The natural flood plains will no longer exist therefore the area of land that is likely to flood will extend to a far wider area.

2. A21 crossing.

The existing roundabout already regulates the traffic flow on the A21 and frustrated drivers speed off towards Hastings. To avoid waiting for a train to cross, cars will try and go through the village causing congestion as the road is already a single lane due to residential parking.

3. Environmental devastation of a unique ecosystem within the disused railway line area.

Not only will the reintroduction of the railway line carve up farmland making areas difficult to farm. Large areas of hedgerows and woodland will be destroyed.

4. The CPO

Two farms will be affected and the livelihoods of two families will be threatened.

There are many more reasons including the existing parking problems in the village causing danger for school children and residents, as people avoid paying £4.00/day to park in the station car park. The proposed new housing development will be hindered unnecessarily by the railway extension and piling money into an already unprofitable tourist railway seems totally bonkers.

My proposal to resolve this issue is to introduce a mini buss service connecting to Bodiam station.

Yours sincerely

Lorraine

Lorraine Singer
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