## **Angela Foster**

From:

M HANLON

Sent:

16 April 2017 11:46

To: Cc:

TRANSPORTANDWORKSACT cllr.gscott@tendringdc.gov.uk

Subject:

Proposed rail crossing closure in Alresford.

To whom it may concern.

After reading notices placed by Network Rail regarding the closure of 3 level crossings and footpaths in the Alresford, Colchester area. I feel I must show my dismay and objection to their proposals. In particular to the footpath EX/157/4. I as a resident of Alresford use this particular footpath every day as I walk my dog to the fields in Tenpenny woods, as does my wife and many local residents. The footpath is well maintained and well used as attached photographs will prove.

According to Network rail closing this access route is a way of saving money and improving train times. I strongly disagree with the notion train times will improve, as this crossing and the other two crossings proposed to be closed, are close enough to the station to have no effect on train times as trains are slowing down to stop at the station anyway and non stopping trains at the station will still be going slowly enough as is safely possible as they pass through the station. I very much doubt non stopping trains will be going any faster through the station if the crossings are there or not. There for My assumption is Network rail are purely closing these crossings as a cost cutting exercise at the expense of Alresford residents and the many walkers and ramblers who use these footpaths for the pleasure of walking in our beautiful countryside. Attached photographs will show the crossing is well maintained and in very good condition. The view both ways is uninterrupted with straight track both ways. I am unaware of any incidents or fatalities at this and the other crossings, which undermines Network Rails claims they are closing our footpaths for safety reasons. Have they given any thought to how some people may ignore the closure and use the crossings anyway. Surly that is far more dangerous than continuing with a purpose built crossing that has worked perfectly well for decades.

Myself and my family members would like it made known we strongly! disagree with these proposals.

Regards, Mark Hanlon

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