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Secretary of State for Transport, Rt Hon Chris Grayling MP
Transport & Works Act Orders Unit
Department for Transport
Zone 1/14
Great Minster House
33 Horseferry Road
London SW1P 4DR

Judith Gibson

3 May 2017

Dear Mr Grayling

ESSEX LEVEL CROSSINGS ORDER

I wish to add my protest to that of many other Wivenhoe residents about the closure of the Paget Road level crossing.

It is total nonsense to take away a perfectly safe route to local amenities, and instead make pedestrians either run the gauntlet of East Street, (a very narrow road with two way traffic and no path), and THEN have to negotiate a railway bridge with exceedingly narrow pathways (avoiding the many buses which pass perilously near, or sometimes on, the pavement); or having to walk up gravelly, unmade, pitted Anglesey Road which also sees considerable motor traffic.

The current rail crossing allows very clear vision to check if a train is coming, allowing an informed decision as to whether to cross or not, which is far safer than the choices posed when crossing any of Wivenhoe's busy roads.

The current extremely loud long train horn blast is totally unnecessary and of course a cynical tactic to try to wear down the residents. This is especially apparent now that a 'horn sounding unit' has been installed, a sensibly volumed horn alerting those about to actually cross the crossing (and not those in the next village!).

I hope that our collective voice will persuade you to consider this extremely serious situation by means of a fair Public Enquiry where all the evidence can be looked at in detail, before a decision affecting many hundreds of our citizens is made.

Thank you for considering my response.

MRS JUDITH POYSER