

Subject: RE: RVR - Robertsbridge to Bodiam Reconnection

From: "Andrew Shaw"

Date: 30/05/2012 14:59

To: <gardner.crawley

Hello, and thanks for the visit recently to discuss the extension to the railway.

Having consulted colleagues and thought it through I think we would prefer to comment directly on the planning application, including the detail of the proposals rather than give an in principle commitment at this stage. Our semi-official position and role as a consultee rather precludes us from supporting third parties, especially where we may be commenting on planning applications.

However I can confirm that we have no immediate concerns about the proposals, subject to the detail of the track etc, and I do not anticipate that the proposals will have any significant impacts on the AONB. The railway is an established existing use, well operated and running through significant areas of the AONB, and in that context and given it is following the existing track line, it would be hard to argue that the use is not appropriate.

I hope this helps and I look forward to seeing the planning application in due course, and am of course happy to discuss this further if you wish.

Regards

Andrew Shaw
Policy Manager