

Angela Foster

5089/113

From: Town Clerk <townclerk@tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk>
Sent: 29 May 2018 11:07
To: TRANSPORTANDWORKSACT
Subject: Rother Valley Railway (Bodiam to Robertsbridge Junction) Order
Attachments: Tenterden Town Council - letter of support for Rotehr Valley Railway.pdf

To whom it may concern,

I have attached a letter of support for the above works order application. A copy has also been posted first class today

With Kind Regards,

Phil Burgess
Town Clerk
www.tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk
01580 762271

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TENTERDEN TOWN COUNCIL

SOEP/113

The Town and Hundred of Tenterden



A Corporate Member of the Cinque Ports

Secretary of State for Transport
c/o Transport and Works Acts Orders Unit
General Counsel's Office
Department for Transport Zone 1/18
Great Minster House
33 Horseferry Rd
London
SW1P 4DR

29th May 2018

Dear Sir,

Rother Valley Railway (Bodiam to Robertsbridge Junction) Order

I am writing to express the Town Council's strong support for the above application for a Transport and Works Act Order.

The council has keenly followed the progress of this major initiative and has received regular updates from representatives of the Rother Valley Railway.

Our support is based on the following issues:

- The link will provide access to Tenterden from the national rail network
- Tenterden will become a "day trip destination" from London
- Tourism and the local economy will benefit, both in Tenterden and Robertsbridge
- Research suggests that the link will annually bring in over £4 million into the area
- The environmental benefits in the use of public transport over private cars will be major
- Significant employment opportunities will be generated, particularly in the hospitality sector. (This has been estimated at over 70 new jobs).
- The railway is largely volunteer-run. The intangible benefits provided by additional volunteer positions are significant.

A scheme as innovative and ground-breaking as this is always likely to encounter opposition, but there is strong and continued support for the scheme in Tenterden.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Phil Burgess'.

Phil Burgess
Town Clerk