



RAILWAY RAMBLERS

TO EXPLORE DISUSED RAILWAY LINES AND RESPECT OWNERSHIP

Mr Richard Bain,
Carlisle Waverley Viaduct Trust

19 School Lane
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26 June 2018

On behalf of the Railway Ramblers Club, I would like to add our support to your campaign for the opening of the Waverley Viaduct as a footpath. I am pleased to note recent developments, which appear to show the tide turning in your favour, but as discussed on Wednesday I am happy to add further weight to the campaign. I remember following the line myself, before the viaduct was blocked and it was open unofficially, and fully understand its potential use to the community.

Former railway lines often form the most direct routes between two places and the Waverley Viaduct is an excellent example of this, potentially linking suburbs to the north of the river with the City Centre and the Infirmary too. Opening the viaduct would also in effect link two long distance paths, the Hadrian's Wall Trail and the Cumbria Trail, bringing more people and trade into the City Centre and encourage greater use of the riverbank paths at the same time.

Perhaps more importantly, the viaduct is a piece of industrial history, a piece of our heritage, in its own right and deserves preservation and a degree of appropriate care in itself. This in turn lends itself to be a learning tool for children and others wanting to see and explore evidence of the City's past for themselves.

I do hope that the benefits of reopening the viaduct can now be seen, and that the necessary financial and other arrangements can be put in place to make it happen.

Yours sincerely,

M A Jones

Mark Jones (Chairman, Railway Ramblers Club)