



Cumbria Industrial History Society

November 27th 2017

The Cumbria Industrial History Society fully supports the opening of the Waverley Viaduct across the river Eden.

Carlisle was once one of the great railway cities in the United Kingdom, but today there is no celebration of this. Very little of its heritage survives and even less is accessible to the public. Although the Waverley viaduct is grade II listed and has recently been repaired by the Highways Agency it is isolated at present on the western outskirts of the city.

By making the viaduct a public right of way it will not only mean this fine example of Victorian engineering will be preserved but will allow it to be appreciated by more people. The development of suitable access to both ends of the viaduct will also allow people to easily access other significant sites associated with the railway industry in the city. These include the canal sidings at Engine Lonning and a road free access to the Etterby and Kingmoor siding sites, all of which are now nature reserves.

The opening the viaduct will attract people to the area and make the remains of Carlisle's other transport structure, the canal, more readily accessible.

There is a need to preserve, use and publicise the railway heritage of Carlisle and access to the Waverley Viaduct can play an important part in this.

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