

Update on the Foxton level crossing pedestrian gates

It is difficult working with an organization that is not bound by public accountability, but we now seem to have Network Rail's attention. The key has been individual residents who have taken the initiative to make contact and report their own experiences of something being 'not quite right' when using the level crossing. No one should get trapped between either set of gates.

We also need to thank BBC Cambridgeshire for their persistent care and accuracy in reporting. They have promised to continue reporting until Network Rail fulfils the on-air commitment of its Anglia Route Manager Dave Ward, back in February, to rectify the still incomplete locking mechanisms on the gate system. We're told this should be done by the first half of April.

Network Rail has at last displayed their emergency phone number in a more prominent fashion and urge people to contact them with any concerns: 08457 114141

If possible, please also contact the Meldreth, Shepreth and Foxton Rail User Group which is keeping a comprehensive log of events – and its log is much fuller than Network Rail's log. We've heard from people living not just in Foxton but also Barrington, Shepreth, Melbourn, Heydon, Great Chishill, Harston, Fowlmere, and Meldreth.

We also need to acknowledge the support of Tina Hughes, a rail safety campaigner whose daughter was killed at Elsenham level crossing in 2005. Tina now has a formal liaison role within Network Rail and has come up to see our level crossing, and to advise. Furthermore, Hattie McFadzean and Florence Clark, two sixth formers whose story was a catalyst in getting Network Rail's attention, have joined the Rail User Group and will be able to act as liaisons for other student rail users.

If you'd like to join, please contact me for an application form, or you can download one from our website: <http://melbourn.org.uk/railusergroup/application-form/>

Many thanks.

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