



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Richard Wolfenden-Brown
Connect Bude
7 Killerton Road
Bude
Cornwall
EX23 8EL

Our Ref: ZA18284

17 October 2019

Dear Connect Bude Members,

I am very sorry that I'm unable to be with you at the Annual General Meeting due to Parliament sitting this Saturday, as it was an event that I very much looked forward to attending.

Although I would have preferred to deliver my address in person, I hope that you will accept this letter as my contribution to today's AGM.

I would like to start by offering my thanks to Richard Wolfenden-Brown and the Connect Bude committee, who have worked so hard and given so much of their time over during the previous year.

The mission to re-connect Bude to the national rail network is something which has captured the imagination of the local community across North Cornwall and beyond, and it is due to the members and the committee's fantastic efforts that Connect Bude is going from strength to strength.

In the last year, I have raised the case with not one, but two Secretaries of State for Transport, and I was able to put Connect Bude's leaflet in front of Chris Grayling and his successor, Grant Shapps.

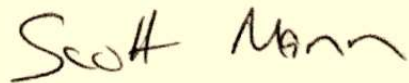
While briefing both Ministers on the project I emphasised the level of support which Connect Bude has in the local area. Connectivity and infrastructure are key policies for me, and I have been determined to ensure that Bude is not left isolated and is instead a key part of the North Cornwall family.

Connect Bude members are determined but realistic. We know that our objective will not be met overnight, but this has not stopped us working hard and opening new avenues to reach it.

This year I was also pleased to put forward a suggested pathway to the committee by way of Great Western Railway's Community Fund. I was very impressed that the committee was able to put forward a bid for funding in such a short time, which if successful, will allow a full feasibility study to be undertaken.

I am sorry that I cannot be there today, but I look forward to continuing to represent Connect Bude in Parliament and I will continue to take the case to government on our behalf.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Scott Mann". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Scott Mann MP
Member of Parliament for North Cornwall
PPS to the Work and Pensions Secretary