

## Godstone Station



There is insufficient car parking space for the present number of commuters using the poor train service. Much more space would be required if

- A ) more residents of South Godstone tried to commute by train and if
- B ) the service was ever improved.

There is also no step-free access at Godstone Station making it impossible for mothers with buggies or those in wheelchairs to access either platform. Even with the current poor service , this simply drives such people into cars and onto the roads.

More Detailed Information(Extract from Email by Cllr Mike Crane):

According to the Government's Department for Road and Rail database, Godstone station is the 1909<sup>th</sup> (out of 2580) least used stations in the whole of the UK. It has a daily footfall (entry/exits) of 172 which means just 86 people per day on average use the station. It is not and since 2016, never has been considered to be a viable commuter option. This situation is repeated at all five stations on the Tonbridge – Redhill line but the reasons pertaining to Godstone specifically are as follows:-

1. Godstone station has a very limited and basic range of facilities. It is unstaffed, has no ticket office, no retail facility, no toilets and no waiting room.
2. Direct London services were stopped in 2016 as were services to Gatwick Airport, Tunbridge Wells and Hastings. It now operates as just a shuttle service between Redhill and Tonbridge.
3. The station has only an hourly service in either direction. The fact that services on this route often have to wait at the Redhill approach signal because main line services are understandably prioritised, means it is very difficult to accurately time or plan any onward journey.

The fact is that residents in and around Godstone and South Godstone drive to other stations within the district such as Hurst Green (daily footfall 1289), Lingfield (1055), Oxted (3364),

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Woldingham (850) and Caterham (1557) because these all have far more regular and direct services to the capital.

I have written confirmation from the CEO of GTR (the train operator) which I would be happy to share upon request, that no amount of development in South Godstone will alter the current status quo as far as service levels on the Redhill – Tonbridge route is concerned or generate any improvements at Godstone station.