

9 - AUG 2018

6th August 2018

Planning ref 2018/91661

Dear Sir / Madam,

I am objecting to the above planning application on the grounds of the following reasons

Traffic/Congestion

If the banking has to be shored up because the company is cutting the existing land away to the footpath, how many gabions will need to be brought in and placed to secure the hillside? Heckmondwike will find itself having to deal with the incoming material to do this job, hence a multitude of lorries constantly bringing in the correct material to be able to build a secure wall of that magnitude. The whole of Cawley Hill, the land and housing above it having to be stabilised. This will be an immense operation and I can't see how this can be done without material being brought onto site as the existing land is to be used for the foundations of the new housing estate.

Therefore we as a town, and myself as a home occupier on Church street are going to have to put up with lorries bringing in gabions and the heavy machinery needed to begin this development for however long such an engineering operation would take. This is before any building of houses is even considered.

These heavy lorries have only two viable routes onto Horton Street and that is from Church Street, via the junction at Church Lane or the junction on Heckmondwike Road / Station Lane. The lorries would not be able to access via the other smaller streets due to their size and the resident parking. This means that lorries would be thundering past St. James Church, and the Grammar School and its new annexe just above Horton Street, which would prove dangerous to the large numbers of children who move to and from these and the the primary school every day. This is also a safety issue due to the existing heavy congestion with school traffic. These streets; Church Street, Church Lane, Horton Street and their existing junctions onto two already congested main roads are not suitable to have large lorries travelling up and down them on a daily basis.

Pollution

The resulting pollution that will occur due to the number of lorries and the shifting of the soil on the existing site is going to be significant. The noise of the lorries and the heavy machinery required to do such a job will also be significant. What worries me is the length of time this development is going to take; 2 years; 5 years; 10 years? How long are we going to have to put up with this amount of excess noise and pollution? How long are my family and others living in the vicinity going to be breathing in the pollution and have to listen to the noise pollution from this development?

Environment

This is one of the last green spaces in this area. Children have nowhere to play out as the local fields are owned by the Grammar School and cannot be accessed. The small green space at the bottom of Horton street will be unusable as a play area if this development goes ahead. It will be too dangerous due to the heavy traffic and the new road junction onto the site.

The wildlife in the cutting will be decimated by this development. This is a space where wildlife can inhabit without disturbance.

I also worry about the amount of water that flows from existing underground streams from Cawley that end up at the lowest level in the cutting. If these natural water courses are blocked are we and other residents going to have problems with flooding in the future. The water has to find another route after all.

I am significantly worried about the magnitude of this development. A cutting that took 5 years to engineer and construct is not going to be turned into a simple housing development overnight. This is going to have a massive impact on Heckmondwike, and particularly the people living near it. I am not a NIMBY, I live very close to the building of the new Grammar school annexe and have put up with building disruption over the last few months, so it isn't that I am opposed to change, but I am really concerned with this development and I am asking for your help to see it rejected.