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Subject: Objection to the planning REF 2018/91661

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Development to old railway line Heckmondwike 2018/91661

**Planning Services
P0 Box B93, civic centre 3
Off market street Huddersfield
HDJ2JR**

Dear sir/ madam

Reference

Planning application number 2018/91661

Proposed Planning of building of 76 dwellings on the old railway cutting just off Horton street Heckmondwike.

I write in connection with the above planning application. I have examined the plans and I know the site well. I wish to strongly object to the development of 76 dwellings proposed.

The proposed site stretching between Walkley Terrace and Brunswick Street and Horton Street is going to increase health and safety risks for the local residents, including minors. The proposed route on average sees 600 vehicles per hour during peak times. If these plans go forward, the developers are proposing to add numerous HGVs to this already busy area onto roads that are not suitable for heavy goods vehicles. This as you can imagine will increase the risks of accidents and noise/air pollution to the local environment.

The proposed plan to put another Road leading from Horton Street is not practical or environmentally conscious considering the site is home to numerous

species of wildlife. Having consulted with multiple professionals who specialise in the backfill of land the professional consensus is that the plans put forward are of poor quality and lacking in detail. That is years of increase in traffic flow, years of increased health and safety hazards in the local community, and years of things that could go wrong. Not to mention how extremely intrusive this process will be to the local residents of the site and the town of Heckmondwike. According to Martin Wood from Kirklees councils environmental health team states that as many as seven areas of Kirklees are currently in breach of national air quality standards, Heckmondwike being one of these areas. So my question to the developers would be, what strategies will be put in place to make sure this process does not add to this already ongoing issue? as no such contingencies have been highlighted in the proposals.

As a local road user myself, Heckmondwike is littered with narrow streets and as a heavily residential area most of these streets are used for 'on street parking' for the majority of the time. Walkley Terrace, Brunswick Street, Church Street and all surrounding roads are no exception to these conditions. These conditions are made even worse during peak times due to the several local schools. Adding on average 120 more local road users to these already over used routes is going to greatly impact the local area which is a direct contradiction to the plans put forward by the developers, who state 'there will be no impact on traffic in the local area' again my question would be what contingencies will be put in place to make sure this statement remains true, as no such contingencies can be found in the proposal itself. In my personal opinion the proposal itself makes sense when looking on a map as Horton Street is the easiest point of access to the site for HGVs. However, it only takes one look at Horton Street, the conditions of the road and how it's currently being used by the local residents to realise that the current proposal is irresponsible and unsafe. This would suggest to me that the area itself has not been accurately inspected by the developers.

Having contacted local schools the recurring issue raised, has been that the sudden influx of 76 new homes with potential families would put a huge strain on the availability of places in local schools who are already overpopulated and underfunded.

After residing in the local area for 18 years. I have to say that my opinion differs from that of the developers who have stated The intended site is a

'derelict space' and uninhabited by wildlife. Over my 19 years of residents in-front of the site in question I have witnessed a number of species of wildlife inhabiting the site itself including protected bats, shrews, owls, foxes many varieties of birds and insects.

There has also been recent sightings of deer in the area. If these plans go ahead as proposed by the developers, the wildlife corridor that sits on the site will be completely destroyed . Up to two years ago the site itself was home to many trees and much more wildlife than there is today, the site itself was used by local children including my own who used this site as an educational tool to engage with nature. The site itself has since changed drastically due to the clearing event that took place only two years ago where the entire site was bulldozed and all trees were removed. Though this event has disturbed the habitats of the local wildlife that were located on the site itself, it is still used by a number of different species of animals and I personally feel it would be a sad day for Heckmondwike to see the rest of the site destroyed, by Bringing in heavy plant equipment which will have to be brought onto Horton Street which is as I have already explained that this is not suitable for heavy goods vehicles due to the size of this small road.

I also understand from the plans that they will be hundreds of piles been driven into the ground, the noise and dust created from this will be absolutely unbearable to local residents plus the health risks are of great concern from the dust and air pollution considering the earth that will need to be moved around and the same again no report on the excising underground mines that are on this site I would also ask you to consider the stability of the land houses and buildings all around to which no reports have been submitted.

Finally, I would just like to take the time to thank you for considering my opinion on the matter in question. Although I have done my best to give you recent and accurate information I would like to implore you to satisfy yourself on any facts before reaching your decision, as the decision you make will impact hundreds of local residents and thousands of local commuters. Myself included. I trust that the decision you reach will be lawful and just. Attached below are some photographs taken by myself and a number of

other local residents within the past week. The photographs are of the site itself and the immediate local area (approximately within a 1/4 of a mile of the proposed site) hopefully these photographs will provide more evidence to support my concern with the current proposals.

Regards







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