

**From:**  
**To:** [DCAdmin](#)  
**Subject:** Objection to Planning Application No. 2018/93591 - Development at Castle Hill, Lumb Lane, Almondbury HD4 6TA  
**Date:** 11 January 2020 15:11:57

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Dear Mr. Franklin, **Objection to Planning Application No. 2018/93591 - Development at Castle Hill, Lumb Lane, Almondbury HD4 6TA**

We are writing to object to the plans for the building of a new hotel, restaurant and conference rooms on this ancient site in the green belt.

From the plans it is difficult to accurately assess the elevations of the proposed structure, but it appears that overall the building has an even larger capacity than the previous application. This new proposal will also require deep excavations into hitherto unexplored areas causing potentially significant damage to the unique archaeology of this site.

We also have grave concerns re the very limited parking available at the summit. The combination of insufficient parking and the increased traffic flow will almost inevitably cause congestion and queueing onto the access road which in itself is wholly unsuitable for any increase in use. The proposed plans to improve access by inserting passing places and, at busy times, having unofficial car parking attendants to regulate the parking and traffic flow are completely unrealistic and likely to be ineffective. The area is also a designated nature reserve in a green belt location and this development can only impact adversely on the wildlife on the hill from noise pollution, light pollution and air quality.

Although the development purports to have significant benefits to the public by providing an interpretation room, our concern is that in practice this is actually very limited in its availability (not available evenings or weekends). We believe that the primary intention of the developers is a commercial venture probably for large and financially lucrative functions such as the wedding market.

The council has a duty to protect the Castle Hill site from what is a clear attempt for a few business individuals to profit from this large commercial enterprise at the expense of the general public. We also understand that this proposal is in breach of several local planning requirements and approval would set a dangerous precedent for the future.

In conclusion, any benefits to the public are very marginal indeed and are heavily outweighed by the disadvantages; there can be no justification for a development of this size and nature in such a sensitive site. There are many hotels and restaurants in the region but only one Castle Hill. The aim of the council should be to preserve and protect this iconic landmark of Huddersfield for generations to come.

Finally, we would also like to point out that despite being regular walkers in the area we have seen no planning notices posted in the vicinity. It seems to us that these *re-submitted* plans go way beyond mere additions to the original proposal - possibly in an underhand attempt to disguise from the wider public the fact that this is a new and larger development than the one originally turned down, which still fails to meet National Planning Policy.

Yours sincerely,