

**From:**  
**Sent:** 04 February 2019 10:19  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Planning Application No. 2018/94189

Planning Application 2018/94189

Dear Sirs

We wish to make comments and objections to the above Outline Planning application.

There are many reasons for objecting to the above including capacity, traffic, environment, wildlife and its residents.

The outline plans available on your website do not provide any clear information about the type, structure and style of dwellings. Are they one, two or three storeys high? Are any low cost and first time buyer housing included?

The proposals will take away far reaching views toward Woolley and South Yorkshire, also toward Huddersfield and the Pennines for existing residents. This is something that is appreciated along with the 'right of light' which must not be taken away. The value of our properties will be reduced following any house building.

Capacity/Traffic/Environment - The existing road traffic volume along Soothill Lane is already a concern. There are cars parked along this road from the junction from Rouse Mill Lane/Soothill Lane all along to the A653 Leeds Road at The Babes in The Wood junction. The road is narrow and has numerous tight bends, also many incoming roads from lower Soothill Lane up to and including the Manor Farm Drive and Lydgate Road junction which often causes traffic build up.

There are many Heavy Goods Vehicles already using Soothill Lane and this is already causing many concerns for both car and pedestrian users. Due to this, we recommend that there should be consideration for a weight limit on Soothill Lane as previously in operation due to the poor condition of the railway bridge. The speed limit in Soothill Lane is 30mph, however at many times of both day and night the speed of some vehicles is way in excess of this. The junction of Manor Farm Drive and Lydgate Road is a concern especially when the school children are going to and coming away from school especially when vehicles are parked very close to the junction and along the roadside for approximately 100 metres in all directions.

The proposed location of the access road in Soothill Lane, just over the brow of the hill and within only a few metres to the access into Lydgate Lodge, is 'totally unbelievable' and gives us concerns about its safety aspect. There are already bollard refuges where vehicles have been seen carrying out dangerous manoeuvres to overtake other vehicles at this point. The refuges do not appear to slow traffic down.

There would be an increase in noise and level of fumes along with a very high increase of traffic congestion if the proposed plan was to be accepted. With the proposed new development there could possibly be an increase of 500 plus vehicles using the roads in the area. Even now, the traffic in Soothill Lane and surrounding areas is increased when the local M62 and M1 motorways are affected by congestion or even closed.

Have the council ever thought about carrying out a true traffic management assessment survey in this area in trying to slow the traffic down in a very dangerous place? Not just how many vehicles are using the road, but what type of vehicle are using Soothill Lane at all times of the day and night.

Population - The schools, doctors, dentists in the area are not capable of coping with approximately 700 plus people. There is only public transport every 60 minutes along Soothill Lane in both directions. There would be more members of the public with their children using the footpaths at the Lydgate Road, Manor Farm Drive and Soothill Lane junctions.

Wildlife and Environment - in the fields there have been seen many various types of birds including hawks, owls and animals including foxes and rabbits. The fields are currently also used by individual walkers, walking groups and dog walkers. It is land used by the local farmer for sheep grazing and local riding school. It is part of the Leeds Country Way and other designated footpaths. The fields identified and surrounding land has been used for coal mining and could cause subsidence issues and the fields also has a water drainage issue.

In view of the above, we object to the building of dwellings as shown on the aforementioned plan and would strongly recommend that the proposed outline planning permission be refused by Kirklees Council in consideration of the extra capacity, extra traffic, the environment, all wildlife and its residents.

Regards