

About the application

Application number: 2019/92096	
What is the application for?:	Erection of warehouse for B8 use (Storage & Distribution) and associated works
Address of the site or building:	Station Lane, Heckmondwike, WF16 0NG
Postcode:	

User comments

Type of comment: An objection
This re-submission, if this is what we call it, appears just to be an attempt to gloss over the extensive, thoughtful, accurate objections previously submitted all of which are still valid and all of which must still be taken into account. Nothing can be altered about the access to the site or access within the wider area so therefore I repeat all my previous submission on this plan. Developers appear to be targeting every piece of available land in Heckmondwike for the most inappropriate plans as they know it is a push over when it comes to the planning committees. At the Strategic Planning Committee meeting on 20th June 2019 one member of the committee referring to development within their ward said "our ward has had enough development we need to protect our greenspaces". This is nothing compared to the plans passed or pending in Heckmondwike and to which this proposal will add. There are already two in-fill plans very near to Station Lane plus the notoriously ill conceived approved plan to fill in the railway cutting nearby and build over 70 homes. There is ongoing building work of over 30 homes off Union Street, Heckmondwike. There is a pending proposal again to squeeze homes into a small amount of space off Dale Lane, Heckmondwike. There is the approved plan to squeeze a Costa Coffee into a tiny and already over developed space when plenty of alternatives were, and even more are now, viable. There is also an approved plan to rebuild industrial units opposite the proposed Costa Coffee. All this despite empty shops and former factories which could be utilised. Heckmondwike is, to put it bluntly, full. It's residents have had enough of noise, dust, lorries, pollution on top of pollution. Huge HGV's driving slowly in Heckmondwike's already slow traffic will only add to the problems of what are already some of the country's most polluted roads. This is the third application in twelve months within Heckmondwike which has planned to build almost up to existing residential properties. Developers seem blissfully ignorant of the amenity of residents being a material planning consideration.

Kirklees Council cannot keep discussing climate change while at the same time turning a blind eye or even approving the removal of mature trees to facilitate surplus to requirement development.

Nearby buildings provide ideal spaces for bat nesting. The proposed development area is ideal for foraging and should therefore be protected. The People's Trust for Endangered Species reports that one third of Britain's hedgehogs have been lost since the Millenium. Spaces like this which are adjacent to residents gardens need to be protected. This development would be detrimental to wildlife and the environment. A material planning consideration.

It is simply not safe to put any more HGV's into the Station Lane/Norristhorpe Lane area with such narrow roads and tight turns. Nor is it appropriate for resident's to have to listen to vehicle reversing noises all day every day or to have building work twelve hours a day adjacent to habitable rooms and affecting their amenity. Along with the loading and unloading of HGV's when the development is finished. A material planning consideration.

The most obvious route for an ambulance heading to Dewsbury Hospital in an emergency from the elderly bungalows and flats on Belmont Grange at the top of Norristhorpe Lane is via Station Lane. Imagine the time lost if said ambulance meets a bus and a couple of lorries turning and trying to pass one another at the proposed development point. By the time it can see them it has already passed the only way out of it's predicament on Milton Road and even using that option it is then negotiating Heckmondwike's notoriously bad traffic.

As has been said elsewhere in these submissions, vehicles already have to mount the kerb to pass each other. The pavement is very narrow on both sides and, for example, pushing a pram or wheelchair "at the wrong time" could prove catastrophic.

This is a badly thought out, surplus to requirements development which will have a major impact on residential amenity, local wildlife, highway safety and public safety. It should be refused outright.