



16 June 2020

Dear Sir or Madam,

Re: Planning Application number [2020/91215](#). Outline application for the erection of residential development Land at, Green Acres Close, Emley, Huddersfield, HD8 9RA

I write in connection with the above planning application. I have examined the plans, and I know the site well. I wish to object strongly to the development of these houses in this location.

I am also concerned that this particular planning application has not had enough public consultation for such a significant development of this size. I do not feel it is appropriate that the developer is allowed to rely upon public consultation from a previously rejected application when this is a new application with a notably different unique access point.

Traffic and Safety Concerns

Concerning the new access point, I worry about access, particularly Wentworth Drive and the junction with Beaumont Street.

There is insufficient off-road parking for residents on Beaumont Street, and both the White Horse Inn and Band Room, often hold events which result in cars parking on the street and causing problems for those accessing the Wentworth estate.

I am concerned that the applicant has not given due consideration to the re-sited bus stop, which adds to visibility problems exiting Wentworth Drive, due to people queueing for bus services.

At the junction of Wentworth Drive and Beaumont Street, vehicles travelling along Beaumont Street westbound, frequently have to manoeuvre their car into the entrance of Wentworth Drive, to avoid the traffic coming the other way. For those vehicles that are travelling east and approaching a blind rise, they often have to cross onto the other side of the road due to the parked cars on the side opposite the entrance to Wentworth Drive. This would be a problem in itself if it were just cars. However, matters are made worse because HGV's, double-decker buses and large agricultural vehicles often use the route.

Slightly further up from Beaumont Street towards the centre of the village, into Upper Lane, there is blind vehicular access to crucial village landmarks - Emley AFC, the Cricket Club, Youth Club, Community Centre and the Wentworth Bar.

Any additional volume of traffic at this already precarious spot could lead to more accidents problems. I would also like to raise my concerns at why a traffic survey has not been afforded for Wentworth Drive, yet I note a traffic study for Warburton has been - albeit somewhat out of date.

The geographical nature of Emley Village means that using the car for many people is vital. Cycling or walking to work is not an option, and public transport here is not as frequent as some of the more urban communities across Kirklees.

Concern about Allocation of Funding

I along with many residents are also concerned that Emley First School will not see the benefit of any extra educational funds from this development.

Environmental Considerations

I am not aware that an ecological survey has been undertaken either of the site or the Millennium Green, where rescued wildlife including hedgehogs are being released post-injury and rehabilitation. I have particular concerns about the protection of hedgehogs. The hedgehog is an extraordinary creature with a long and celebrated history in this country. The Government's 25 Year Environment Plan sets out the Government's ambition for nature recovery and our threatened and iconic species. The framework is clear that local authorities must "identify, map and safeguard" wildlife sites as part of their local plans.

Hedgehog numbers are declining in numbers, and I am therefore concerned about the role habitat loss plays. The destruction of habitat due to construction traffic accessing via Warburton/Green Acres is something that concerns me and that an ecological survey has not been undertaken exacerbates this concern.

Summary

Given the concerns outlined above (and I know there are many more that others have raised which I have not touched upon). A significant development such as this, in my opinion, should at the very least be afforded a new public consultation. Transparent, open discussion with residents is at the heart of responsible development, and this is particularly relevant when regular working practices are disrupted, as has happened with the coronavirus outbreak.

Yours sincerely

