

About the application

Application number: 2020/92331	
What is the application for?:	Outline planning application for demolition of existing dwellings and developmen
Address of the site or building:	Land east of, Leeds Road, Chidswell, Shaw Cross, Dewsbury
Postcode:	

User comments

Type of comment: An objection

Whilst there is a need for housing, building developments on this scale will have a huge impact on the current local community and wildlife.

An increase in over 3000 people will have a huge impact on the lives of the local community with an increase in demand for utilities, local services such as doctors, dentists, schools and shops along with a huge increase in traffic and noise pollution. No additional infrastructure to provide support services within this proposed development will leave many local services unable to cope with demand – leading to longer waiting times and pushing already stretched resources even further.

As a council, I am sure you are mindful of the need to ensure that all your constituents have access to healthcare – yet I am sure if you spoke with them and the schools, GP's, dentists and hospital teams – they would say that they are already full or near capacity. Adding additional people on this scale without providing additional resources will only be to the detriment of the people you currently serve.

There will also be a huge environmental impact too. Wildlife will be displaced and more and more of the green places – cited as being great for our mental health – are being swallowed up to larger and larger developments. During this pandemic, we have been encouraged to get out in nature more – yet the scale of this development will deplete this vital patch of nature - used by many local residents, walkers and people with dogs.

The ecological survey shows little disruption in the way of bat activity but this area is a vital are for decreasing numbers yellowhammers and skylarks along with the small bat population. This development would remove yet another wildlife corridor connecting two woodland areas, with water courses between that are essential for the survival of our rapidly decreasing wildlife . Hedgehogs in particular have recently been recognised as vulnerable with rural numbers declining fastest.

A State of Nature report, produced by a coalition of more than 70 wildlife organisations and government conservation agencies late last year, reported that a quarter of UK mammals and nearly half of the birds assessed are at risk of extinction. When plants, insects and fungi are added, one in seven of the 8,400 UK species assessed are at risk of being completely lost and these losses show no sign of letting up.

The report shows a lot of the habitat is in poor condition and therefore maybe in need of some management, however rough, this is still home to many birds, mammals and invertebrates. I also have to question is this has been deliberate action to reduce the amount of opposition to the plans.

I urge you to seriously consider the longer term impact that building in this area on such a large scale will have on the existing community, wildlife and environment – not only now but in years to come.