

1st September 2020

Dear Sir/ Madam

Written Objection to Kirklees Council Planning Application number 2020/92331

In response to your letter dated 11-Aug-2020 ref 2020/92331, I would like to register my objection to the plan, based on the following reasons:

- **Green Belt Release** – The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) clearly states that development on green belt should only be permitted under exceptional circumstances. Following representations by Kirklees Council and the Church Commissioner landowners relating to site MX1905 Chidswell, it is clear that these circumstances do not exist, and the site allocation should be removed from the Local Plan.
- **Flood Risk** – Kirklees Council have removed reference to any exception test requirement for the site and failed to address the flood risk affecting the whole site. As a local resident whose property overlooks the proposed development area, I am concerned that the natural watercourses that border the site will be inadequate to take surface water runoff, once the site is developed.
- **Highway Issues** – Kirklees Council has suggested some wording to overcome the highway issues on Leeds Road and other roads and streets. This is wholly inadequate and does not address the problems of increased traffic congestion and air pollution particularly to houses and Shaw Cross Infants School on Leeds Road, with the resulting risk, according to Press Reports, of early onset of dementia, Kirklees are putting people's lives at risk.
- **Schools** – The Council have only provided a watching brief to allow for secondary education in the area. Woodkirk Academy, which is outside the Kirklees Area, is already at capacity and no provision has been made in the Plan to provide increased capacity.
- **Ancient Woodland** – The Council have failed to allocate a large enough area of protection for land surrounding Dum Wood and Dogloitch Wood, putting both woods at great risk and threatening the loss of a public asset. Local wildlife will also suffer as a result.
- **Hospitals & Health Centres** – Currently Mid Yorkshire Hospitals and local Health Centres are running at full capacity and waiting lists are lengthening. No solution to the increased pressure on these facilities, due to the construction of 1500 more houses, is included in the Plan.
- **Public Footpaths** – During the Covid19 lockdown we have noticed an increase in the number of people using the footpaths, which cross or border the site, these will be lost if the development goes ahead

Yours Faithfully