

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
<p>I am opposing this development for the following reasons</p> <p>The council has a duty to protect our local green belt, once built on it is lost forever. The following is an extract from the National Planning Policy Framework for England, Section 13: Protecting Green Belt land</p> <p>133. The Government attaches great importance to Green Belts. The fundamental aim of Green Belt policy is to prevent urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open; the essential characteristics of Green Belts are their openness and their permanence.</p> <p>134. Green Belt serves five purposes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) to check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas;b) to prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another;c) to assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment;d) to preserve the setting and special character of historic towns; ande) to assist in urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict and urban spaces <p>All the above points are important here, this area is part of Leeds Country Way a well used and loved circular walk through the local countryside and during the Covid 19 lockdown this area was well walked and was essential for many to get fresh air and exercise. I cannot stress enough how popular this local walking area is which will never be the same if this development is allowed, walking past houses is not the same as walking through open green spaces, enjoying the local wildlife in a more natural way.</p> <p>If developers are allowed to use green belt which is easier to build on then they won't use the brown field sites of which we have plenty in this area.</p> <p>This development will increase the traffic on already busy roads - local pollution levels are already not good, there will be more hold ups at M62 junction 28 and M1 junction 40 and on the linking roads. This land has been kept previously as it acts as a "green lung" separating Kirklees, Wakefield and Leeds and the towns of Dewsbury, Batley, Ossett and Morley.</p> <p>There are fewer green areas locally due to intensive building already putting a strain on local wildlife and green spaces</p>

This development will put more pressure on local amenities - secondary schools and medical centres are already busy and over-subscribed.

The need for industrial buildings and offices may be reduced after the Coronavirus pandemic as more people are working from home and so the 'employment part of this development may not be required in the future. There may be plenty of empty industrial units and offices in the area and the Council will need to promote regeneration of our town centres and city centres after the pandemic with a whole new outlook so will need to reconsider the Kirklees Local Plan and this sort of development.

If the development was for affordable homes then that be more palatable but the percentage of affordable homes is only 20%. This is the sort of housing which is required locally but developers don't want to build these as they are not as profitable.

The Hey beck is also prone to flooding after heavy rain causing the land around it to become waterlogged, this development shows building in this area.

This site was put forward for open casting for coal many years ago as the test drilling revealed a huge amount of coal just under the surface. It is inadvisable to build properties on coal. There are also old coal workings in the area, the ancient woodlands of Dogloitch and Dumwood are full of bell pits and Shaw Cross had its own colliery whose workings may run under this area. Open casting was not allowed previously due to the effect on the local housing - dust, noise, heavy vehicles and the loss of green space and this is still relevant today.