

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>Planning objection 2020/60/92331/E</p> <p>1. Greenbelt This is greenbelt lane. Kirklees Brownbelt Register identifies over 119 locations that potentially would suit development of 5,186 homes. Preserving the greenbelt and building on brownbelt is better for everyone.</p> <p>2. Traffic impact Traffic is already problematic, especially on A653 heading towards Dewsbury, near SHAW CROSS, which becomes a bottle neck when the dual carriageway merges with the single carriageway. There is no solution to this without demolishing hundreds of houses. Traffic on Owl Lane has substantially increased in the last few years, especially since the Harron Homes development at Amberwood Chase. Any traffic heading towards Batley would most likely use SOOTHILL lane, which is already chaotic, like Shaw Cross there is no solution without complete demolition and redesigning of existing infrastructure.</p> <p>3. High Schools: Although the plans indicate proposals for new school, there appear to be no high school provision. Existing high schools in the catchment area are: already oversubscribed and in high demand, including: Woodkirk – 3 applications per place Manor Croft – oversubscribed Outwood Academy – 3 per place</p> <p>4. The proposal appear to go against the words of Kirklees Council. Below are quotes from Kirklees Green Belt Review:</p>

The Kirklees green belt forms part of a larger interwoven area of green belt that spans West and South Yorkshire and encompasses the major Yorkshire conurbations of Leeds, Bradford, Huddersfield, Wakefield and Halifax. It serves to prevent these cities and large towns from merging both with each other and with the greater Manchester metropolitan area to the west.

(Green Belt Review, 2016, section 2.5)

Furthermore:

Section 2.10 National planning policy attaches great importance to protecting green belt land. The fundamental aim of green belts is to prevent urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open.

2.11 Green belts serve 5 purposes; • To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas; • To prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another; • To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment; • To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns; and • To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land.

(which brings us back to my point 1)

2.15. 15 In the north and east of the district Kirklees borders Bradford, Leeds and Wakefield. In places the green belt separating these major built up areas is narrow, reflecting the extensively urbanised character both of this part of Kirklees and within neighbouring authorities. In this area therefore the strategic purpose of the green belt in preventing any actual physical merger is key.

5. Pollution

The proposal is for effectively a new town, this would cause an increase in pollution.

6. Cycle routes

Leeds Rd and Soothill Lane are dangerous to cyclists. Gawthorpe is popular and councils have invested into cycling schemes with success as this is a popular recreational route. Building the proposed development would be a disadvantage to cyclists who use the routes on the land as it lays right now. Kirklees are keen to promote cycling, an initiative that is encouraged and therefore this makes the development a step backwards. Since lockdown, the route has been used even more and Kirklees have said this is something they would encourage, see Councillor Shabir Pandor's comments here:

<https://kirkleestogether.co.uk/2020/06/11/have-your-say-to-improve-conditions-for-cycling-and-walking-in-kirklees/>

People will cycle if there is a safe place for them to do so.

7. Ancient woodland

The proposed development site includes an ancient woodland. The development would be a threat to wildlife here. The area is biodiverse and does not belong to us, we

would be a threat to wildlife here. The area is biodiverse and does not belong to us, we share this earth with other species.