

From:
To:
Subject: Fwd: Planning Application 2020/92331
Date: 17 November 2022 17:24:30

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- > 2020/92331
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- > Dear sir
- > I formally object to the above outline planning applications for the following reasons!
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- > To develop this site would mean the loss of of much needed agricultural land! The land has always been used for crop production in excess of the last forty years and is the last remaining viable portion in our area. Natural England have requested site-specific surveys to assess the quality of the land but the Land Owner (Church Commissioners for Church of England) has refused to do so which is clear evidence of an attempt to avoid complying with planning policy!
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- > The Land Owner states that the need for new housing and employment outweighs the loss of agricultural land.
- > This is a ridicules statement when our council area has many derelict and unused sites available for development which would allow the retention of the agricultural land!
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- > Insufficient investigation has been carried out by the developer on the impact on wildlife!
- > Permanent displacement of endangered Skylark & Yellow Hammer which breed on the land in large numbers. The Ecological Impact Assessment states: “with a development site of this scale, some impacts remain significant, and are very hard to mitigate”.
- > The out-of-date Ecological Surveys which have been ‘updated’ by one single walk-over by an Ecologist (employed by Land Owner) in October 2022 after a drought is insufficient!
- > The Biodiversity Net Gain report (based on October Ecologist walk-over) claims the development will deliver 10% more biodiversity than in its current state. A previous Biodiversity Net Gain report, based on exact same conditions, was assessed at 14% Net Loss so how do the same plans increase by 24%? The net loss in 2020 was advised independently by Yorkshire Wildlife Trust but it appears the Planning Department and Land Owner have ignored the comments made by the YWT Ecologist why is this?
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- > There are unrecorded protected species and the evidenced collected on site by the local community which has been ignored! These species have additional protection in the planning process but are not considered if they are not in the Ecological Surveys. There is evidenced Schedule 1 species: Kingfisher, Red Kite and Barn Owl. The Land Owner has dismissed our evidence to say the species are only foraging on site and not resident. Which is complete rubbish The Kingfisher has been recorded regularly on the waterway just below the site and if waterways become polluted it will lose its feeding ground. This is not being considered in the planning process currently.
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- > Bats have been reported by the Land Owner’s Ecologist as having ‘no significant activity on site’. There is over 9,000 verified recordings of bat calls in and around the 2 Ancient Woodlands and we constantly see them in flight at dusk around Willerton Close!
- > We need to consider the Impact on climate change if developed it is a known fact that woods, streams and fields contribute to climate resilience and act as a cool zone. Changes to land use affect its health and ability to fight climate change!
- > -Loss of local amenity with positive benefits on mental health which will also a loss of green lung that separates Leeds, Wakefield & Kirklees.
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- > There is a potential for damage to Ancient Woodlands:- Dum & Dogloitch Woods – the surrounding buffer has been identified as too small to prevent damage to the Woodlands. Not building on woods won't stop them

being destroyed. There are other impacts that will cause the death of the woods.

> Objections from CPRE & the Woodland Trust were redacted by the Planning Department, to remove details of who they were from when published on the Planning Portal.

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> There has been insufficient work on the impact of additional vehicular traffic in an area which is a rural location with road networks not even capable of taking existing traffic at peak times!

> Also any work and surveys done in the past are now completely out of date due to the already approved housing developments which are under construction and also some which have recently been completed in the area!

> The consequences of these proposals will create a complete bottle neck for vehicles travelling towards Dewsbury due to the completely inadequate and partially obstructed with parked vehicles Leeds Road single carriageway system unless a new road bypass is to be provided or the carriageway is to be doubled which is clearly impossible!

> New planning policy dictates that there should be a community need for such development when green belt is affected and no such need is required by the Chidswell community which is clearly apparent from not only the number of objection but also the on going historic objections which were made when the Local plan was first introduced and consulted on!

> We should not be building on boundary farm land which abuts adjoining authorities when many infill plots are available in the district! with more viability which will not have the impact to the infrastructure in one concentrated area!

> Yours a concerned resident

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> Chidswell

> Dewsbury

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