

About the application

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| 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

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| Type of comment: An objection | |
| Do you wish your comments to be published on the website anonymously? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes |
| <p>I strongly object to the planned developments for many reasons:</p> <p>The area covered by the planning application is a vital 'green lung' and essential natural open space between heavily built-up areas of Kirklees, Wakefield & Leeds council areas and is enjoyed by the local communities for exercise, dog walking and bird watching away from the pollution and traffic of surrounding roads. This landscape is sorely needed for people's physical and mental health and well-being. It is home to a wealth of wildlife including birds of prey and also to miles of (increasingly rare) mature hedgerows which are essential to the survival of pollinators, small birds and other wildlife which are already in serious decline. Apart from these factors, what is now a beautiful and soothing landscape will become a sprawling eyesore to overlook if the proposed plans go ahead.</p> <p>The proposed plans will destroy huge areas of essential farmland - for environmental reasons (reducing food miles), national food security and global food security we cannot afford to lose this farmland. The shortages of essential grain and other essential food resources caused by Putin's war on Ukraine have highlighted the importance of diversity of production for local markets, but even more so for the less developed and supported countries which are being left without supplies even more than usual.</p> <p>The area is home to two beautiful historic woodlands - Dogloitch Woods and Dum Woods, which are currently enjoyed and respected by local walkers and nature lovers at sustainable levels. Building hundreds of houses with thousands of new residents so close to these sites would risk them being overwhelmed and ruined</p> <p>Traffic is already very heavy on the A653 causing congestion, air pollution, noise pollution and increasing numbers of serious accidents. The introduction of additional cars from the proposed 1500 houses as well as vans and lorries from the proposed huge Industrial Estate is unsustainable.</p> <p>The proposed access roads to the site on Leeds Road, Heybeck Lane and Chidswell Lane will create further pinch points causing further congestion and pollution</p> | |

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There is already heavy traffic congestion at all nearby road junctions at peak times - (Shaw Cross, Soothill Lane / Heybeck Lane, Rein Road / Syke Road) and also people using Chidswell Lane, Windsor Road and Heybeck Lane as rat-runs to try and avoid tail-backs. All these roads are home to many pensioners, and families with young children and the addition of hundreds of additional vehicles will make these roads even less safe.

There are huge areas of redundant 'Brown Field' sites in the local area as well as masses of unused properties in local towns, especially Dewsbury. I know there is a real need for low cost and 'starter' properties for people to rent or own, but surely it would be better to develop homes in these town centres which have been long neglected, so that residential communities and the town centre businesses can grow and prosper hand-in-hand? What is the point of Kirklees investing in small parts of Dewsbury Town Centre without creating a holistic plan including nurturing an on-site community living in and around the town centre to support new thriving retail and leisure ventures? Surely that has to be a better idea than wiping out acres of beautiful countryside farmland and whole swathes of wildlife?

There are also already insufficient essential services in our area with a lack of GP and Dental surgeries to support the local communities.