



The green fields need to be kept for agriculture. There are working farms here producing food.

The fields need to be conserved alongside the hedgerows, streams, trees and ancient woodlands for nature.

Joggers, families, walkers and rambling groups can be seen all the time using the network of footpaths for fitness and relaxation. There are no roads and the air is cleaner, smells of trees and flowers and is away from fumes and traffic. People come from all over to enjoy this unique countryside.

The land is full of wildlife. There are constant calls from buzzards, red kites, the sparrowhawks, kestrels, barn owls, little owl and screech of barn owl. There are woodpeckers, yellowhammers, skylarks, pheasants, grey partridges, songthrushes galore, warblers plus all the woodland birds, the nuthatches and treecreepers, the herons, ducks, geese, moorhens and coots.

The traffic on Heybeck Lane is already extremely busy and dangerous. There is always a queue on the Leeds-Dewsbury road and on Soothill Lane. The road works at Owl Lane have caused extra jams and queues and that is only 150 dwellings where work was supposed to have been done at the junction to alleviate impact. No work is proposed to be done to alleviate impact from 1535 dwellings, traffic from 35ha industrial zone and all the construction. Proposals seem to say they will wait and see. This leaves the communities to suffer the consequences.

This will turn a place of peace, relaxation and wildlife to one of noise, pollution, vibration from traffic and heavy machinery and destroy an unique and rare last place for people and nature.

In 1978 West Yorkshire council valued this land as a green lung and open space. Kirklees Council valued the land at that time saying how important it was when they opposed the Opencast application.

Nothing has changed since other than more building is being done all around making this an even more important green space, cool zone and place to help tackle climate change.

It will be a sad day if Kirklees Council despoil a last valuable space for people, nature and climate resilience in Kirklees.