Address: 13 Old Heybeck Lane Tingley, Wakefield WF3 1DW

About the application

Application number: 2020/92350	
What is the application for?:	Outline application for residential development (Use Class C3) of up to 181 dwel
Address of the site or building:	Land south of, Heybeck Lane, Chidswell, Shaw Cross, Dewsbury
Postcode:	

User comments

Type of comment: An objection	
Do you wish your comments to be published on the website anonymously?	No

My reasons for objecting are as follows:-

1) Traffic generation in the local area. Many people in the area commute to the city centres (Wakefield and Leeds) for work. Increasing the number of houses on the land will significantly increase the already growing traffic on a morning and evening. With COT27 currently being held, we should be focussing on minimising traffic and keeping our greenlands green!

2) Linked to this is the impact on climate change this proposed development will have. Woods, fields and streams contribute to climate resilience and act as a cool zone. Changes to land use affect its health and ability to fight climate change. P

3) Permanent loss of agricultural land - the Land Owner of this land (Church of England) have refused to carry out the site-specific surveys to assess the quality of land as requested by Natural England. The Planning Department have admitted they do not know if the land is of better agricultural value than the Land Owner claims and it appears there are no plans to conduct the assessments repeatedly requested by Natural England.

4)The proposed development will cause the permanent displacement of endangered bird species including Skylark and Yellow Hammer which breed on the land in large numbers. Yellow Hammer birds are classified in the UK as Red under the Birds of Conservation Concern 4: the Red List for Birds (2021). They are protected in the UK under the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981 and are a Priority Species under the UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework. I do not understand how the Land Owner can be allowed to destroy the habitats of these birds.

5) Noise and disturbance from the proposed development. I live on Old Heybeck Lane which is over the fields from the two proposed sites and the sound from the building will travel across the fields. The resulting industrial units will ruin my view. We bought our house just this year because of the countryside views, the nature walks and

our house just this year because of the countryside views, the nature walks and peaceful location. This is all going to be hindered by this proposed development.

6) There are many public footpaths which surround the woods. Building up these areas will ruin the lovely nature walks, which was the main reason for us buying our house, especially during the building process. These lovely and quiet public footpaths are going to become crowded and run through housing/industrial developments instead of their intended countryside.

7) I disagree with the Biodiversity Net Gain Report which claims that development will deliver 10% more biodiversity than its current state. The land that is going to be developed is woodland, farmland and fields. These are all natural habitats for many species of animals (including the birds stated above). A previous Biodiversity Net Gain Report (based on exactly the same conditions) concluded a 14% net loss and personally I believe this to be generous. How can the same plans increase biodiversity by 24% than previously? It makes no sense how building on greenland to create housing and an industrial site can increase biodiversity from what are currently natural habitats for animals.

8) We have a hot tub in our garden on summer nights when it is dark, we sit and can see the bats flying around our house which is close to Dum Wood. There have been 9,000 verified recordings of bat calls in and around the 2 ancient woodlands, which I can fully support as I have seen them at my house firsthand.

9) I have also seen evidence of a Kingfisher in the beck and a Red Kite. 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 an important factor for you to consider as Kingfishers are protected by The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Why is this not being considered in the planning process?

10) Objections from the CPRE and the Woodland Trust were redacted by the Planning Department when published on the Planning Portal. These are important and influential bodies, whose opinions should be heard and considered fairly. This is an unfair planning process if the opinions of these bodies are not heard. I hope.

Use brownland and keep our greenland green!