Subject: Objection to 2020/60/92350/E
Date: 24 November 2022 22:53:33

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I would like raise my concerns and formally object to the above application number: Heybeck

The reasons are set out below.

Both sites should be looked at together as a whole, Heybeck should not be looked at independently to avoid the developers meeting their requirements as a whole development.

*This is good quality farmland providing the food chain year after year. Considering the current situation with food shortages and the war in Ukraine, we should now be looking at protecting our farmlands indefinitely or at the very least we have more certainty on our food sources. Once this is built on the farmland is gone forever, there's no going back.

In addition to this, despite Natural England's requests for site-specific surveys to assess the quality of the land, this has not been completed. The Landowner states that the need for new housing and employment outweighs the loss of agricultural land. A Land Assessment Survey is required to ensure the Planning Department are provided with clear indication if this land is of better agricultural value than the Landowner claims. If Natural England say that soil surveys should be carried out, it is the councils responsibility to ensure these requirements are met and not let a land owner who is set to make profit into the tens of millions, dictate what they should and shouldn't be doing.

* The Ecological Survey is outdated, a walk over in October 2022 was undertaken which stated that species such as Skylarks and Yellow Hammers are foraging or passing by. However, reports indicate that regular sightings have been reported of Schedule 1 species such as Kingfisher, Red Kite and Barn Owl, Yellow Hammers and Red Kites. The Environment agency also have a information board at Fenton Dam naming the Kingfisher among other protected species to watch out for. The Ecological Impact Assessment carried out states "with a development of this scale, some impacts remain significant and are very hard to mitigate" A full and up to date Ecological Survey is required. It is the councils duty that these requests are carried out.

* The area is part of the Kirklees Wildlife and Habitat Network (KWHN) The latest reports from Biodiversity Net Gain states that the waterways have dried up and does not classify as being part of KWHN, Kirklees Council own data includes this area in the KWHN this should be investigated and the correct information sought from an expert qualified to access this. The reference to the waterways was undertaken during a period of significant drought, making the assessment invalid. the assessment should be carried out

under normal rainfall values.

* A report based on the 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 this creates a disparity of 24%? The net loss in 2020 was advised independently by Yorkshire Wildlife Trust.

*The Forestry Commission has issued its advice in relation to the ancient woodlands and the Woodland Trust have strongly objected.

* The traffic assessments show a large number of the junctions to be over capacity and these are also outdated. There is no mitigation in place and no assessment of the main junction leaving Gawthorpe village from Leeds road onto Owl lane.

I am really concerned specifically around the impact, two development sites, Chidswell and Heybeck, will have on local transport networks, Arriva have recently made significant reductions to services in the area making pubic transport hard to use and rely on.

* I am also really concerned at the loss of this green space, many walkers, dog walkers, families use the area for recreational purposes, Covid highlighted this further what this green space means to the local communities health and mental health and the need for such green space.

I would be grateful if you would consider the above concerns and address them before approval of these applications.

Yours sincerely