

About the application

Application number: 2021/92206	
What is the application for?:	Erection of 146 homes with open space, landscaping and associated infrastructure
Address of the site or building:	Land Off, Woodhead Road, Honley, Holmfirth
Postcode:	WF2 7UA

User comments

Type of comment: An objection	
Do you wish your comments to be published on the website anonymously?	Yes
Public consultation NPPF states "The planning system should be.....a platform for local people to shape their surroundings." The communities in the Holme Valley have been consulted about planning by Kirklees Council and the Parish Council several times in recent years. On each occasion people have responded that they do not want their individual communities joined together by developments such as this. This is a greenfield site (Site HS161) and should not have been included in the Kirklees Local Plan because it joins Honley and Brockholes. Site constraints The constraints on this site in the Local Plan include the fact that it is within the Wildlife Habitat Network and part of the site contains a Habitat of Principal Importance. The Badger Assessment Report confirms that there is a main breeding sett on the eastern boundary which is partially within the red line boundary. There is also a smaller active sett 40 m beyond the boundary. In addition 5 red listed birds and 2 amber listed birds were sighted during the Breeding Bird survey. However, the Environmental Impact Assessment concludes that "The scheme will not be able to deliver a net gain for biodiversity on site." Furthermore, The proposed development is expected to result in a loss of 11.49% after avoidance and mitigation. The total net % change is -25.82%. Therefore the constraints in the Local Plan have not been addressed. Travel Plan The Travel Plan states that Smithy Place is a PROW which facilitates a pedestrian route east-west forming a direct pedestrian route to the amenities in Brockholes. However, in reality, there is not a pavement for much of Smithy Lane. Also the plan states that "Walking would be an attractive travel option for future residents." This is risible as both the New Mill Road and Woodhead Road are very unpleasant for pedestrians due to heavy traffic. It is suggested that residents will utilise the train service at Brockholes. However, there	

It is suggested that residents will utilise the train service at Brockholes. However, there is no provision for parking at the station and only a limited amount of on-street parking in a quiet residential area.

Transport Assessment

Survey data for the assessment was collected in 2015 and it is stated that there is "...minimal development/expansion planned over the next five years.." and ".....it is likely that the growth factors applied are creating an over-inflated 2021 and 2026 baseline scenarios." Again, this statement is risible given the construction of at least 360 new houses at the Honley end of Netherton and Clitheroe Farm. Not to mention additional houses at Brockholes and Holmfirth. Despite the assertion that figures have been over-inflated, the Assessment does point out that several junctions within the study area are approaching capacity. Anyone using the Station Road/Eastgate/New Mill junctions would say that point has already been reached prior to the increase in housing.

Furthermore, the incline on the access road to the site is such that it would be hazardous for vehicles from the development to join Woodhead Road, particularly if they were turning right. That access point was originally intended for vehicles from 59 houses and it is now expected to cater for 146.

Car parking spaces

There are 146 houses but only 219 car parking spaces are cited in the planning application. That means that the roads throughout the site would be littered with parked cars making access for emergency vehicles and refuse wagons difficult. This might also pose dangers for children.

Sustainability

This is not a sustainable site. Because of it's situation it cannot be integrated into either Honley or Brockholes.