

14 Fullwood Drive

Golcar

Huddersfield

HD7 4JH

Tel: 01484 654741

7 March 2023

Planning and Development Service

Economy and Infrastructure

PO Box B93

Civic Centre 3

Huddersfield

HD1 2JR

Dear Sirs

Application Number 2021/93621

Land off, Fullwood Drive, Golcar, Huddersfield HD7 4JH

Erection of 10 dwellings and associated works (Within a Conservation Area)

I would like to object to the above Planning Application:

1 It is not 'LAND OFF'. Fullwood Drive is a cul-de-sac and at the end is a ransom strip which the builder put there deliberately to stop any future attempts to use it as an access road.

Fullwood Drive is **NOT** an entrance to the site or a future access road. It is a cul-de-sac which has a metre wide strip of land called a 'ransom strip' at the head of the turnaround, which is owned jointly by the owners of numbers 20 and 21. When I bought my property at number 14 in April 1982 the builder told me that he had done this for the sole purpose of stopping any prospective builder from breaking through and using Fullwood Drive as an access road. No one has any right to use Fullwood Drive as an access road to what will be Phase 3 of a plan to build a massive housing estate.

This planning application shows the roadway continuing through this estate of new houses from Carr Top Road up to Fullwood Drive, which was designed as a cul-de-sac and families have for 40 years allowed their children to play out in safety. Any attempt to use the cul-de-sac as an access road would be entirely unsuitable and dangerous. There could potentially be a further 100 plus cars using this cul-de-sac every day. The road is single track and impassable if householders park outside their homes. Also the road surface was not laid to be a main road and is off Victoria Lane which is very steep.

The owner of this land told me many years ago that without access to his land it was virtually worthless but if he could use Fullwood Drive as an access road to gain planning permission he could sell the land for a lot more money. Greed is all that has driven this ridiculous planning application.

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2 The land in question is Garden Allotments and was last used as Garden Allotments.

In my property deeds I have a map from H M Land Registry, title number WYK 367522, dated 1981 showing the land in question as 'Allotment Gardens'. If the Land Registry knew that the land was Allotment Gardens, why is Kirklees Council not aware of the designated status of this land and it being illegal for it to be developed? Planning permission should not be granted to build in the field as it was still being used as allotments until very recently. I noticed that land in the Holme Valley was refused planning permission because the land is 'allotment land', although it has not been used for this purpose for several years'.

They have already broken down the stone wall at the head of the cul-de-sac and crossed the strip of land that they do not own and have no right to do. They brought in a digger and started to clear the land and then they brought a wood chipper to continue clearing the land. They have also erected a large metal fence.

3 Conservation Area – PM pledges: No houses on green fields. Boris Johnson has said houses should not be built on “green fields” as ministers abandoned proposals for a vast overhaul of planning rules.

At last the Government has realised that brown field sites should be used to build more houses on sites that have previously been developed, closer to town centres and other services and amenities.

Why destroy the character of a beautiful old village? Golcar village should be preserved for what it is, a collection of old weaver's cottages. Local infrastructure would be under too much pressure as it is a Conservation Area and the local roads were not designed to take so many more vehicles, most of which are small, cobbled back streets, which will become congested with traffic. Ambulances and Fire Engines will be unable to get through in an emergency. They say only 10 houses in Phase 3, but that is on top of the houses already built in phase 1 and others built on phase 2. Local schools have no vacancies and doctor's surgeries are full with 4 week waiting time for an appointment.

This area is very important for bats on or near the development site. I live nearby and every evening at dusk I used to watch the bats feeding outside my living room window. They would swoop around catching insects, sometimes coming right up to the window. Ever since the digger came on Tuesday 20 October 2020 I have not seen a single bat – they have gone entirely. Every evening I sit and watch and wait, but nothing.

Yours faithfully