

Planning Service
PO Box B93,
Civic Centre 3
Off Market Street,
Huddersfield.
HD1 2RJ

3rd January 2022

Dear Sirs,

Re- Planning Application 2021/94280
67 dwellings on land at Lady Ann Road, Batley

I would like to object to the above planning application on the following grounds:

1. The complete inability of the infrastructure to cope with the present volume of traffic. Vehicles, especially large ones like a bus, have difficulty in negotiating the narrow, very curved roads, which are often blocked by further by parked vehicles. The speed of some vehicles is also a concern, as is the size and volume of vehicles servicing the industrial units at Lady Ann Mills.
2. Access for emergency vehicles is already difficult with appliances often parking in the middle of the road to attend a call-out.
3. The access from Soothill Lane is limited, congested and often impeded by parked vehicles and the sheer volume of traffic especially at peak hours.
4. The beck is also prone to flooding. This flows not only towards the road and the cellars of the houses on Lady Ann Road, but also up into the area where the houses will be built.
5. The land is an asset to the well-being of the local community containing a beautiful stand of trees planted as a First World War Memorial, the majority of which have preservation orders in place. It is a small oasis of green in an otherwise heavily built up area, an area of Kirklees already noted for the poor physical and mental health of the residents. At this time of crisis the lack of access to green spaces has been evident, particularly in towns. Green spaces are essential to the health and well-being of residents of urban areas - and not so-called 'spaces' manufactured as a box-ticking exercise by builders. The effects of Covid-19 have been particularly hard on some parts of Kirklees, Batley being one of them. Now is not the time to be removing any open accessible green space.

Whilst I appreciate the need for more affordable housing in the area, I do not think this application should be allowed. The space is still of far greater value to the community.

Yours faithfully,