

About the application

Application number: 2022/92406	
What is the application for?:	Erection of 10 affordable dwellings, with access from Chapelgate and associated
Address of the site or building:	Land Adj, 67, Chapelgate, Scholes, Holmfirth, HD9 1SX
Postcode:	HD9 3BW

User comments

Type of comment: An objection	
Do you wish your comments to be published on the website anonymously?	Yes

Outside of Scholes, this appears to be an altruistic project where the whole community benefits, and the eco design positioning makes 'it ok' to build on Greenbelt. This is a popular headline that must not drive approval. The proposed site is not suitable. This is immediately obvious from a location visit, and a view shared by MP Jason McCartney

The site is on a steep hill served by a single, narrow country lane. The access point is on a sharp bend. This presents significant danger to the general Scholes' community, especially children. There has been an exaggeration of boundaries on the acquired land, indicating there is sufficient space for a walkway, and 'adequate' visibility on the bend. This is not the case, a point confirmed by a member of the Scholes community, who has long experience in building regulations. Scholes has been subjected to numerous new housing developments over the years and is now woefully congested with insufficient parking and traffic management measures. Scholes is a village and must remain so. It is already at break point and cannot accommodate any further traffic in the area. Any further housing developments will bring increased noise, disturbance, traffic accidents, and have a negative effect on the area, making the village an undesirable place to live, work or visit.

Crucially, this is GREENBELT. With the already increased conurbation in this area, this site must be retained as greenbelt to support biodiversity, fight climate change, and to preserve green space for the community, especially children who already use this area for recreation.

'Save Our Scholes Greenbelt' (SOSGB) ran a comprehensive survey which clearly reveals strong feelings within the community. This must be read in full by everybody involved in the planning committee. A summary from the survey shows:

- > 90% of participants do not feel that building affordable houses on the site is the best use of this land.
- > 78% of participants believe Green Belt land should not be built on at all

Scholes is a large village crowded by cities. It has already been overdeveloped and cannot possibly accommodate more housing, traffic, or further burden on its limited infrastructure. The line must be drawn here. There are numerous brown field sites in the Holme Valley that should be considered ahead of further erosion of Scholes' greenbelt and diminishing the critical battle against climate change. Scholes community needs to play a leading role here and we can categorically state that this development will be detrimental to the area and will certainly not be creating a stronger community.

Our concerns around loss of greenbelt, nature conservation, highway safety and increased traffic and parking most definitely fall under Material Planning Considerations. We strongly object and urge you to fully consider the concerns of the Scholes' Community and do the right thing by stopping this proposal progress any further.