

	Address

Application no: 2022/62/92406/W I object to developing the Old Quarry (Chippings Site) for housing for the following reasons:

- The proposed site is designated Green Belt and as such should not be considered for development, particularly as brownfield sites are available throughout Kirklees.
- Additionally, as a consequence of the development proposal, there would be a loss of existing wildlife and biodiversity.
- Currently the narrowness of the main road through Scholes together with the volume of traffic causes disruption and difficulties for both drivers and pedestrians. To consider developing housing adjacent to a blind bend (Chapelgate/Dean Bridge Lane) that is already dangerous would be totally irresponsible.
- Already our local infrastructure struggles to cope with traffic. There is the constant threat to pedestrians as many of the roads do not have adequate or no pavements at all i.e. Dean Bridge Lane, Paris, St Georges Road. I am a regular walker around the villages of Scholes, Hepworth, Jackson Bridge and Wooldale and often have to pull into foliage/hedges, where there are no pavements, to avoid fast traffic. (Dean Bridge being one of them.) The volume of cars in the village means that vehicles are regularly parked either partially and/or also wholly on pavements and at corners and bends restricting views, very dangerous. This problem needs addressing not making worse.
- Please note that during snowfalls and ice in winter, we always struggle with the roads (not helped by a minimum of supplied grit bins). These conditions create major parking and driving problems as some owners leave their vehicles on the main roads as they have difficulty accessing their respective developments/estates i.e. Ryfields, Whitewells, Wickledon Gate etc. (as they are all approached by steep gradients).
- Potential flooding issues would be exacerbated with the introduction of additional housing. Dean Bridge Road already suffers from a drainage system that cannot cope with heavy rainfall and becomes totally hazardous (and often impassable) in winter for both pedestrians and traffic (ice).
- Further to the danger of increased traffic, the additional parking on Dean Bridge Lane, White Wells Road and Chapelgate that would inevitably occur as a result of the proposed development, would create additional disruption.
- No doubt the villages services (drainage/sewerage etc.) would become even more strained. Only fairly recently and on a few occasions, there was raw sewage on Ryecroft Lane, Scholes (as covered in the Huddersfield Examiner) and I am informed of the sewer collapse at Jackson Bridge. The small/narrow Victorian pipes cannot sustain the vastly increased usage.
- I understand the Primary School already has full occupancy. It is understood that the council has no plans to improve the infrastructure of the village in the near future.
- A further increase on the local population in the area would equally impact on local services i.e. doctors, dentists. Over the last few decades, the Scholes population has increased significantly as a result of additional houses being built. It is well publicised regarding the difficulty in accessing such essential services.
- I understand that a previous application was declined. Holme Valley Council has previously acknowledged (please refer to Local Plan 2016)

that Scholes already has serious problems with infrastructure re highways, utilities/services, environmental issues, education and employment. I am not aware that any of these issues have either been rectified or even improved.