



I wholeheartedly object to this planning application. I question the motive for this initial work on the boundary. The plans are not clear and do not show that the whole site will most probably be cleared of all trees and shrubbery during this work.

The area is of great importance to the biodiversity of Skelmanthorpe as a whole, which is recognised by the conservation zone on Wood Street and also the TPOs on the trees on the left of Wood Street . Plus two of the trees on the right of Wood Street, contained within this boundary wall are now protected, however this was only sorted 12 months or so ago. This planned work will no doubt damage the root systems of the trees. What measures are in place to ensure this does not happen? Who will be monitoring this work?

The wall was repaired back in 2016, the work was carried out successfully and no damage was made to the trees. This work was carried out by Kirklees Council Highways. It is my understanding that the wall was adopted by Kirklees Council Highways many many years ago and has been maintained by Kirklees Council Highways since so why is it now the property owners who are submitting this planning application for the wall? I find this totally unacceptable and do not understand why the work to the part of the wall has not been carried out already by Kirklees Council Highways as they have always done in the past. Why has this changed?

The amount of wildlife that live in this area is outstanding, having Barn and Tawny Owl breeding pair. I have witnessed the fledglings myself. The habitat itself provides food for every species imaginable up the food chain that is native to the UK, from ants to frogs, to great crested newts, bees and fly's, mice and rats, not to mention all the different insects that all play such a vital role in supporting the health of the wildlife and the environment in local area.

It also has to be mentioned that the trees and shrubbery drink 1000s and 1000s of gallons of water, has there been any assessment of the infrastructure to be able to cope with this extra water that would be going into the surface drains and sewerage? What would be the implications for the houses on Wood Street, Holly Tree Grange and Station Road? This extra water would no doubt make Wood Street into a river bringing gallons of water down the hill of Wood Street right into peoples homes. What is being done to guarantee peoples homes would not be put at risk of flooding?

In summary and to be clear I strongly appose this application, I question the motive for the necessity of such extensive works, I question why is the wall back with the owners when Kirklees Highways have always fixed and maintained the wall, I question the cost to Kirklees for the repairs and maintenance over the decades. I do not agree one bit to mature trees being felled. I do not agree one bit to the natural environment to be damaged? We've had our fare share of loss of our green spaces in the village. This one must be preserved and protected. Thank you