

Sent: Friday, April 19, 2024 1:04 PM

To: Local Development <Local.Development@kirklees.gov.uk>

Subject: Grange Moor Planning Application 2023/62/93704/E

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F.A.O. William Simcock, re. the above planning application.

Address: 10 Denby Lane, Grange Moor Wakefield, WF4 4ED

We have this week received a copy of the update to the proposal to build 10 quality bungalows on a site off Denby Lane, next to Urban Terrance. We were happy to accept the proposal to have 10 bungalows built, particularly as it indicated there would be off-road parking and some wildlife/recreational development on the site.

We now understand the planners have declined this proposal as Kirklees council want to increase it to 22 houses, more than doubling the number of dwellings, and including some social housing. Yet again our country village is under threat from expansion, and it is not able to cope with the increased traffic that would result. Denby Lane is a narrow country road, unsuitable for the amount of traffic it already has to put up with. The site access and exit would in any case be a problem, in that there would only be one possible exit due to the lack of any road being available to allow householders on the proposed site to exit directly onto Liley Lane via the private road to the north. This constricts all traffic onto Denby Lane. Denby Lane is a straight road, and speeding is already a problem, an accident waiting to happen. Building social housing right onto Denby Lane is going to cause problems for access and traffic congestion, and is totally out of character with a country village.

Furthermore, there are very few facilities in Grange Moor for the people who already live here. It's a quiet country village with a unique character, but very much a low priority for infrastructure and local service provision by the council, we feel. There is one shop, a public house, a hairdresser, a primary school, a church, an extremely poor bus service, and no facilities for young people to let off steam, particularly teenagers. (To put it another way, social housing would be built, but nothing would be added to the village facilities and infrastructure to help families living in that social housing). Getting to the medical centre in Middlestown is a problem, particularly for elderly people without transport, but the community association has done its best to help transport them there, good for them). Local people feel let down by the Council in so many ways, and are now being asked to take on an unacceptably high number of houses being built adjacent to a road not able to cope with the number of vehicles using it already, and with nothing for young people to do).

I've lived here for over 40 years, and at nearly 77 years old don't want to be forced to move house because of an overwhelming new development of 22 houses right across the road, which I know is far too large for the

site. How can they possibly enhance the character of this small village – normally that enhancement is considered as part of the planning process, but appears to be ignored by this new 22 house build proposal.

The community association have sent you and the Planning Department an official letter which my husband and I totally agree with, but we wanted to add our additional voice and objections to the 22 houses now proposed, which seems to have come out of the blue to all of us in the area around Denby Lane, and is more than double the number of dwellings originally put forward by Yorkshire County Properties Ltd for planning. We have had very little time to put this e-mail together, but trust it reaches you within the very short timescale allowed for objections.

Yours sincerely.