



This is in no way a sustainable development. There are currently around 170 houses in Stocksmoor, an extra 50 houses would have a huge detrimental impact on those living here and the surrounding countryside, which is used by walkers, horse-riders and cyclists from all around, due to it being part of the Transpennine Trail and other published walks.

This proposal appears to have been rushed through without proper consultation and environmental impact assessment being carried out. The site was until recently greenbelt and should have stayed that way. The woods bordering the field are designated ancient woodland and have an abundance of wildlife, that regularly use the field for hunting and nesting. Although the field is farmed, we often see hare, deer, badgers, weasels, bats, owls and nesting pheasants in the field. The proposed development is way too close to the precious woodland and the water course in it, which is of geological importance and used by local school groups visiting Cliffe House. The transport assessment provided with the plans is an absolute joke (to be polite). I am not aware of one person in Stocksmoor who uses public transport to commute, public transport is almost non-existent and completely unreliable, if you are lucky there is one train an hour and buses come every two hours at best so it seems the timetables used in the assessment are out of date or more likely fabricated. Fifty homes would mean around an extra 100+ cars driving frequently, as the car is the only option for those living here. The assessment assumes most people work from home, but as we know, this is the luxury for very few people post-Covid. The nearest shop and GP is in Shepley, which means using the already treacherous Stones Wood Lane. The majority of roads to the village have single track sections and are already busy enough, but Stones Wood Lane is particularly dangerous and single track for large parts, with few passing places, and is very popular with walkers, cyclists and used by farm traffic, meeting a tractor on that road is not for the faint hearted. There are no pre-schools or first schools in the village, so any children living on the proposed estate would need to be driven to and collected from a neighbouring village at peak times, if they can even get a place in the often over subscribed schools.

The bend on which the entrance is proposed is dangerous already, living just off the bend, I have had several near misses there and the crossroads at the end of Shepley Road/Cross Lane, have already had one fatality and I have witnessed three other accidents there in my four years of living here.

I cannot see any benefit economically to the village, there is no employment opportunities so everyone will need to commute.

The houses proposed are particularly ugly and would dominate the village, particularly Station Road, which is mainly bungalows, would be overlooked and light and views blocked.

I understand the need to build more houses and the financial gain for the Council, but this is a particularly poor application, which would have a huge negative impact on such a small peaceful village and would be devastating for the local environment and wildlife.