

Objections to the proposal to build 50 houses at Stocksmoor, Shepley Road

Reference number 2024/91242

25 Norton terrace

Stocksmoor

Hd4 6XJ

I have been lived in Stocksmoor all my life with my family. In my short life I have seen the village change as every available spot within it be built. The most recent being Stocksmead. We are simply up to capacity and anymore houses will change the dynamics of the village.

I have been advised of the plan to build again on the hill that goes down to the path that take you to Shepley and through Stones wood.

I was shocked and horrified especially given the short period that we all must give our views. I have been shown one small postcard that does not fit with the serious nature of the proposal. The plan will increase the size of the village by 30% and it will change the whole dynamics of the village.

I am objecting on the grounds below, which all support that the proposal is completely unsustainable and will not meet the objectives that the planners are proposing:

1. Our village is a rural village that did have up until recently 6 working farms. I am advised by the elders in the village we had more access to provisions then than we do now. The builders do not appear to understand what our village is and how it has been and appear to wish to turn it into suburbia.
2. The roads around the village are simply becoming busier and busier as people are avoiding the main route and all the routes leading to the other villages do not have footpaths. The roads that satellite out are in the most single track.
3. There are no amenities in the village, everything I need I must walk too.
4. Shepley road which leads out from the proposed site is mainly single track, unlit and has a series of blind bends. It is used by walkers, cyclists, runners, and horse riders. It is already becoming increasingly treacherous walking that route. I walk along there to get the bus to Wakefield twice a day in all weathers and seasons and I have been in several near misses. So much so that in the Winter I must wait for a lift with my brother, or I must wait 2 hours for the train as the connections do not fit. Incidentally the trains are haphazard and very expensive, so they are not feasible for me. In winter the roads are impassable and even more dangerous, the danger starts from October and runs to March due to water, leaves and ice
5. The buses are not hourly at best at peak times hourly and there are no buses to Holmfirth where I went to high school. We had to walk along roads with no pavements nor lighting. The increase in traffic will increase the risk for my younger siblings who will have to take

that route and in the dark. I simply fear for their safety as I know that drivers are not vigilante and we have to wear black.

6. The builders are suggesting that Stocksmoor would benefit from a park, we have woods and fields to have played in and a part at Norton Terrace too. Incidentally this has been neglected and could do with updating.
7. I have all my life enjoyed the beauty of Stocksmoor and I am very concerned how the taking over the field that connects to the woods and beck will have on the ecosystems that live in there. The field is an agricultural field and has been utilised it is not a useless piece of waste land. Having walked around Huddersfield I can think of very many areas that would benefit from development, not a piece of land that is enjoyed by many and has a significant purpose for the environment.
8. I am aware of the many wells and high-water table in Stocksmoor and how the run off impacts on the rivers and the water systems. I am concerned that the area will suffer pollution.
9. The village is vey important to those many walkers that visit and walk through the village this was especially important during covid. They will not benefit from the village when it is simply a housing estate.
10. The villages all have their very distinct identity, this will encroach on Shepley and Thunderbridge and will remove that vital singular identity the villages have.

I would urge you to reject the proposal and consider a far more suitable and sustainable place to build an estate. Quite simply Stocksmoor would be placed into chaos and will be destroyed.