About the application

Application number: 2024/91242	
What is the application for?:	Erection of residential development (up to 50 dwellings) with associated access,
Address of the site or building:	Land north east of, Shepley Road, Stocksmoor, Huddersfield, HD4 6XW
Postcode:	LS23 7BA

User comments

Type of comment: An objection	
Do you wish your comments to be published on the website anonymously?	Yes

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed development of 50 new houses in Stocksmoor, Huddersfield. I believe that this particular development will have an extremely negative impact on our community for a number of reasons.

1) Stocksmoor is a small, rural village with limited infrastructure. The introduction of 50 new homes will increase the number of houses in the village by a third.

2) This increase in houses will inevitably lead to an increase in the number of vehicles on the roads. Each house could potentially have two or three cars, which could lead to an extra 150 vehicles on the roads.

3) This increase in number of vehicles will lead to increased traffic on our narrow roads, which are already under strain. Shepley Road and Cross Lane are already extremely busy roads, because they are used as a rat run from Shepley and beyond to Huddersfield, going past the proposed development. The road from Shepley to the development is already an overused dangerous road with the section through the woods having limited passing points, meaning cars have to reverse every time cars meet, which is very regular. The passing points are also only suitable for higher axled vehicles due to the depth of the passing points off the main carriageway. Road rage between drivers meeting each other is not uncommon. The existing road network is not designed to handle such a substantial increase in vehicles, raising serious concerns about road safety, particularly for pedestrians and cyclists, but also other drivers.

4) The public transport system in Stocksmoor is very limited. There is one train per hour from Huddersfield to Sheffield and Sheffield to Huddersfield. The bus timetable allows for one bus every two hours from Huddersfield and from Stocksmoor to Huddersfield with the last bus being at 8.06pm. The bus service terminates at Stocksmoor before returning to Huddersfield, i.e. there is no onward service to anywhere past Stocksmoor for passengers wanting to travel to Shepley or beyond. Hence cars are needed. The Transport Assessment provided by Andrew Moseley Associates states that the bus service is an hourly service which is clearly wrong.

5) Stocksmoor does not have the necessary amenities to support a sudden population increase. Our local school, healthcare facilities, and other essential services are already operating at or near full capacity. An influx of new residents will place an unsustainable burden on these services, potentially diminishing the quality of life for current residents.

6) The proposed development appears to be for houses built of artificial stone or brick. The majority of house in Stocksmoor are stone built and any proposals for new build houses in Stocksmoor should be stone built only to blend in with the existing.

7) This proposed development poses a threat to the local environment and wildlife. Stocksmoor is known for its picturesque landscapes and biodiversity. The construction of 50 houses will inevitably lead to the loss of green spaces and habitats for local wildlife, which is a cause for concern among residents who value the natural beauty and ecological significance of our village.

8) It is important to consider the character and heritage of Stocksmoor. The village has a distinct charm and historical significance that could be compromised by large-scale, modern housing developments. It is essential to preserve the unique identity of our community, which could be irrevocably altered by this proposal.

In conclusion, I strongly urge Kirklees Council to refuse planning permission for this development in Stocksmoor. I recommend exploring alternative locations better suited to accommodate such a project without compromising the infrastructure, amenities, environment, and character of our village. I also suggest a more comprehensive consultation with local residents to ensure that any future development aligns with the needs and values of our community.

Thank you for considering my concerns. I hope that the council will take these points into account and act in the best interests of Stocksmoor and its residents.