

## 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?	No
<p>The proposed housing development of 50 dwellings in Stocksmoor has raised significant concerns among local residents, environmental advocates, and urban planners. Stocksmoor, a small rural village known for its picturesque landscapes, tranquil atmosphere, and close-knit community, faces profound changes if this development proceeds. Key issues include the tight access via a small single lane road, the impact on local wildlife, and the fundamental change to the village's identity.</p> <p><b>Tight Access via a Small Single Lane Road</b></p> <p>Stocksmoor's narrow, winding roads add to its rural charm but are ill-suited for handling heavy traffic. The primary access point to the proposed development site is a small, single lane road. This road is not designed to accommodate a significant increase in vehicular traffic. Introducing 50 new dwellings would bring an estimated 100-150 additional vehicles, leading to substantial traffic congestion and safety concerns.</p> <p>Increased traffic congestion would not only be inconvenient but also pose significant safety risks. The narrow lanes make it difficult for two cars to pass simultaneously, and the lack of sidewalks puts pedestrians at risk. Emergency vehicles, such as ambulances and fire trucks, may find it difficult to navigate the crowded, narrow roads, potentially delaying critical response times during emergencies.</p> <p>The wear and tear on the road from increased traffic could lead to more frequent maintenance needs, disrupting daily life and incurring additional costs for the local government. Significant road upgrades would be needed to safely accommodate the increased traffic, leading to potential environmental damage and further detracting from the village's rural aesthetic.</p> <p><b>Impact on Local Wildlife</b></p> <p>Stocksmoor's green spaces, woodlands, and agricultural lands are vital habitats for a</p>	

Stocksmoor's green spaces, woodlands, and agricultural lands are vital habitats for a diverse range of wildlife. The proposed development site is home to various species of birds, mammals, insects, and plants. The construction of 50 new dwellings would lead to habitat destruction, disrupting local ecosystems and displacing wildlife.

Bird species, many of which are protected, nest in the trees and hedgerows that would be removed during construction. Small mammals such as hedgehogs, rabbits, and foxes rely on the undeveloped land for shelter and foraging and would be forced to relocate. The loss of flora, including native plants and wildflowers, would reduce biodiversity and disrupt the local food chain.

Increased human activity and noise pollution during and after construction would create an inhospitable environment for many species. Nocturnal animals, in particular, are sensitive to light and noise, which would increase with the development. This disruption could lead to a decline in local wildlife populations, diminishing the area's natural heritage.

### Change of the Village's Identity

Stocksmoor's identity is deeply rooted in its rural character, historical architecture, and community spirit. The village's small size and limited development have preserved a way of life that is increasingly rare in today's rapidly urbanizing world. The proposed development threatens to fundamentally alter this identity.

The construction of 50 new dwellings represents a significant increase in the village's housing stock, leading to a population increase that could overwhelm the current infrastructure. Stocksmoor's limited public services, including its small school, healthcare facilities, and public transport, are already stretched thin. An influx of new residents would exacerbate these issues, leading to overcrowding and reduced quality of services.

The village's social fabric, characterized by strong community ties and a sense of belonging, could be strained by the sudden population increase. Long-term residents may feel alienated by the influx of new people, leading to potential divisions.

Architecturally, modern housing estates often lack the character and craftsmanship of older buildings, creating a disjointed aesthetic and detracting from the village's visual appeal.

In conclusion, the proposed housing development of 50 dwellings in Stocksmoor presents numerous challenges that outweigh any potential benefits. The tight access via a small single lane road would lead to significant traffic congestion and safety issues. The impact on local wildlife would be severe, with habitat destruction and increased human activity disrupting local ecosystems and leading to a decline in biodiversity. Most importantly, the development threatens to fundamentally alter the identity of Stocksmoor, eroding its rural character, community spirit, and historical charm. Preserving the unique qualities of Stocksmoor is essential for maintaining the well-being of its residents and the integrity of its natural environment.

\*Please do not publish my personal information inline with GDPR regulations.\*