

Address: 44 Bradshaw Road Holmfirth HD9 6EF

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

I strongly object to the proposed development off Shepley Road, Stocksmoor for several compelling reasons supported by data and sources:

1. The land is designated as "Safeguarded Land" and should be protected from development due to its productive agricultural use and environmental value. It provides essential habitat for local wildlife. According to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), safeguarded land is meant to prevent unnecessary loss of agricultural land and protect the countryside.

2. The proposed development would significantly impact wildlife in the area, including species relying on the adjacent woodland and rough grasslands. Noise from construction and subsequent habitation would disrupt habitats. Studies by the Wildlife Trusts highlight the importance of preserving such habitats to maintain biodiversity.

3. Stone Wood Road, the primary access route, is already overburdened. Adding approximately 100 cars from 50 new houses would exacerbate traffic congestion and safety issues on the narrow, single-track road. Research from the Department for Transport underscores the dangers of increasing traffic volume on roads ill-equipped to handle it.

4. The development would drastically increase the size of Stocksmoor by 30%, potentially diluting the community spirit. Studies on community cohesion emphasize the negative effects of rapid and large-scale developments on established communities.

5. Thurstonland First School is already stretched, and the influx of new residents could strain its capacity further. Local authorities' reports on school planning and admissions underscore the challenges of accommodating additional pupils without adequate facilities.

6. Increased demand on local services such as broadband, water, sewage, electricity, and gas due to new residents working from home could strain existing infrastructure. Reports from utility providers and local councils highlight the risks of exceeding capacity.

7. Residents bordering the proposed development bought their properties for the open countryside views and quiet environment, which would be disrupted by the new construction. Legal principles protecting property rights and local planning policies emphasize preserving existing amenities for residents.

8. The proposed housing design does not align with Stocksmoor's traditional architectural character, potentially detracting from the village's aesthetic appeal. Urban design guidelines stress the importance of maintaining architectural harmony within historic and rural settings. In conclusion, the negative impacts on environment, infrastructure, community cohesion, and local amenities far outweigh any potential benefits. Kirklees should prioritize developments on brownfield sites and disused buildings, as outlined in the local plan, to minimize environmental impact and preserve community integrity.

Sources:

- National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)
- Wildlife Trusts studies on habitat preservation
- Department for Transport research on traffic impact
- Local authority reports on school planning and admissions
- Utility providers' capacity reports