

I strongly object to this proposed development.

It is too large - approximately 30% increase in size of village.

The density of build is much greater than in the rest of the village and materials to be used are not in keeping with the natural stone that is predominantly used in Stocksmoor.

A big negative is safety - access to the site is at the top of a hill from Stones Wood Lane on a blind bend . The road from the site through stones wood to Shepley will not cope with up to 100 extra cars using it , not to mention delivery vans with online groceries ,clothing purchases etc. The road is largely single track with passing places - visibility is largely restricted and not helped by overgrown hedgerows which are not kept sufficiently trimmed back . There are daily stand offs between motorists not willing or unable to reverse . There are no footpaths along the route which is well used by walkers and is known to be dangerous . It is also used by horse riders and cyclists being part of National cycle route.

It is suggested residents of the new development will not use this route for which there is no evidence. It is also suggested they will mainly work from home - again no evidence. Highways have also indicated that this site is unsuitable as Stones Wood Lane cannot be improved . Doctors , shops , schools etc and main road access via shepley would be via stones wood .

Other roads from the development would also have safety implications - Fulstone road is single track with passing places for a long section .Stocksmoor rd is very dangerous for pedestrians , cyclists , horse riders as the pavement is not maintained and is suitable only for 1 person to walk on - parents with children/ prams are at risk if they walk along it . The corner at Butts Farm is exceedingly bad as it is possible for vehicles to drive over the kerb at that point .These risks are exacerbated as the speed limit along them (apart from the village centre) is 60 mph , and yes drivers do reach this speed !

Other routes out of the village are only slightly better. The 60 speed limit should be reduced on all these roads even before any further development is considered. If the roads aren't safe for everyone this cannot be a sustainable site

The site cannot be regarded as sustainable- no jobs in the village so all employment & shopping trips will require a car journey- the buses are not hourly and the train can be unreliable. There are no buses to Kirkburton, Shepley , Holmfirth so cars are essential to live here .The only benefits are to the developers.

GP's, schools , dentists locally are stretched to capacity.

The use of this site will also affect the multitude of wildlife that inhabits the site and surrounding Ancient woodland . Also will dry stone walls which are a feature of the village be lost - one long stretch has already been removed and has altered negatively the character of this beautiful village.

The developer traffic will cause severe disruption on these country lanes which are unsuitable for heavy vehicles .

Account should also be taken of the large amount of building already done in Shepley and the proposed plans for 200+ houses on the storthes Hall site and the retirement village that was proposed there . These will put enormous strain on local infrastructure.

I agree totally with all the many objections that have been made.

This proposal is lacking on many grounds and should be refused.