

23 Norton Terrace
Stocksmoor
HD4 6XJ

Objections to planning Application 50 Houses 2024/62/91242/E

I am writing to raise my objection to the planning application 2024/62/01242/E

On the grounds that this is not a sustainable development in line with the core principles of National Planning Policy Framework Report, 2010–12.

Current and future generations housing needs could be met in alternative brown field sites. In Kirklees, the National Housing Federation (NHF) identified 97 brownfield sites covering 147 hectares – or 363 acres of land.

Focusing development on more suitable urban brownfield means that housing would be near to where people already work and live, with infrastructure, such as schools, shops, public health and public transport.

Stocksmoor has no infrastructure, public transport is poor with one unreliable train an hour, a bus every two hours only six days a week. Expanding development in Stocksmoor would put more strain on the nearby existing infrastructure and public services in Shepley and Kirkburton. Both of which are already congested and finding it difficult to cope with the extra burden of new developments.

Contrary to Newett's proposal that the development will be an "area of ecological enhancement". The location of the site will be detrimental to the

ecology. It would significantly enlarge a dispersed population, construct an urban sprawl, change the character of the village and encourage higher car usage. Rising to a possible 150, plus associated vehicles; home delivery, maintenance, family and friends. Lack of infrastructure would demand journeys be taken out of Stocksmoor for work, school, health facilities, leisure and social reasons.

Thereby, substantially increasing the ecological footprint. The ecology of the surrounding area will be jeopardised, building on this green site will create impervious surfaces, spreading run off pollutants into the nearby beck in Stones Wood.

Adding to resident's current drainage issues, and the overflow of sewerage into Thunderbridge. It will also change nutrient and biogeochemical cycles. All these impacts will be exacerbated by resident's activities such as landscaping, the introduction of non-native (sometimes invasive species). More domestic predators, cats and dogs, will be introduced impacting the song bird population and other wildlife.

The entrance to the development, on Shepley Road is on a blind bend. It is a single track without a footpath, already a dangerous route, for pedestrians, horses and cyclists, winding up to another blind bend, where there are often standoffs and other conflicts. As already recognised, Shepley Road is unsuitable for heavy construction vehicles. Shepley Road cannot be improved to accommodate extra traffic.

Road networks in Stocksmoor mostly consist of narrow winding lanes, not designed to facilitate the present size and amount of traffic.

Alternative commuter routes in the direction of Sheffield, would mean travelling down Station Road to a bottle neck at Thunderbridge, climbing up Dam hill which narrows with parked cars.

The planned development, exceeds its environmental limits and would significantly compromise the ability of current and future generations to enjoy an outstandingly beautiful natural environment, one of rich biodiversity. Supporting the ancient Stones Wood, a rare geological site of deciduous woodland with mature beeches, bluebells, wood anemones. It has been given Special Scientific Interest (SSI) status for its biological importance.

Moreover, the environment should be respected in its non-anthropocentric value, that is to say nature for nature's sake.

The site should be preserved, protected and treasured for future generations from the reckless, irreversible and unnecessary destruction.

In addition, the planning application process is undemocratic and unfair There has been no inclusive public consultation. Newett Homes have failed to comply with Kirklees Council on the National Planning Policy framework. A progressive local planning policy needs to be put in place which includes:

The principle that recognises the importance of ensuring that all people should be able to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life, both now and in the future. (NPPF defines sustainable development, p. 93)

Considering all the above reasons, the Planning Application, should be refused as it does not adhere to the NPPF's five Sustainability principles:

- Living Within Environmental Limits;
- Ensuring a Strong, Healthy and Just Society;
- Achieving a Sustainable Economy;
- Promoting Good Governance; and

- Using Sound Science Responsibly.