

## DCAdmin

---

**From:**  
**Sent:** 25 June 2024 22:59  
**To:** DCAdmin  
**Cc:** Cllr JohnJ Taylor  
**Subject:** Objection to Planning Application 2024/62/91242/E

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Objection to Planning Application 2024/62/91242/E

Dear planning committee,

I am writing as a resident of the village of Stocksmoor of 21 years, to object to the above planned development.

I agree with the many previous objections outlining the negative impact on the village in terms of the large size of the development in comparison to the existing housing numbers, the environmental impacts, the lack of extra capacity in our local schools and doctors surgery, and the lack of infrastructure and transport links. As residents we also have first hand experience of the frequent power cuts and interruptions to water supply that the village experiences.

However, I would like to focus my comments on the road itself as I feel I am well qualified to do this. I am a driver with 35 years experience as well as a commuter from Stocksmoor to Sheffield. I pass the proposed site by car on my way to and from work via Shepley Road and Stone Wood Lane at least six times each week. In addition I use Shepley Road and Stone Wood Lane a further three to four times each week to access the local facilities in Shepley such as the local shop, cafe, doctors' surgery, pharmacy and dental surgery.

I would state that the driving conditions on Shepley Road and Stone Wood Lane are extremely challenging. The road is very narrow in places and requires careful and patient navigation in order to avoid a collision. In winter there is ice and snow, and as this road is not gritted by the council, this catches many motorists unawares and results in cars getting stuck on a regular basis. During wet weather there is often standing water on the bend at the bottom of the road creating hazardous driving conditions. In summer the road is very overgrown with foliage making visibility even more difficult.

There are already many local commuters like myself using this busy country lane, as well as other motorists looking for a cut-through to avoid the frequent roadworks on Penistone road, school traffic transporting children to and from school buses in Shepley, and villagers including elderly people driving to the doctors surgery and other amenities in Shepley. In addition this road is used regularly by cyclists, motorcyclists, farm traffic and tractors, supermarket delivery vans, and pedestrians and horses who sometimes put their lives in peril on the blind bends of this treacherous route. Motorists who are unable to confidently reverse or who are unaware of the location of the passing places frequently create traffic jams and road rage incidents are regular.

I cannot imagine how this already challenging route can cope with the extra traffic that this large housing development would create. With the proposed 50 houses, and most homes in Stocksmoor having two cars due to the very limited public transport options, this could lead to 100 extra cars using the road on a regular basis which is extremely unsafe. In addition the access point on a blind bend is exceptionally dangerous, as traffic turning left out of the site would be turning directly onto a blind bend with no street lighting or pavements.

I would note that the Newett Homes proposal on their website is misleading with regards to the existing pavements and street lighting at the point of access:

“Access is primarily via Shepley Road, a residential street with existing pedestrian footpaths and lighting on the west side”

Newett Homes have omitted the information that there are no existing pedestrian footpaths or lighting on the east side, which is the access point towards Stone Wood Lane via the blind bend. To call Shepley Road a “residential street” is also misleading as there are only a handful of residential properties and the rest of the road consists of an undeveloped rural lane through farmland and woodland.

In the westerly direction, the crossroads in the village of Stocksmoor between Shepley Road and Cross Lane is also extremely dangerous, with limited visibility particularly to the right as you approach from Shepley Road. There have sadly been previous fatalities at this junction and the large increase in vehicle numbers would doubtless increase the risk of further accidents.

I note that in the Kirklees Council Pre-Application enquiry response, 2023/21443, 18th March 2024, Highways officers recognised the challenges that this development would cause to traffic and public safety and considered the site “unsuitable for any further intensification in use from the development”.

I would therefore urge that the proposal for the above housing development be rejected on traffic and safety grounds.

Yours Faithfully,

Yew Tree House  
5 Stocks Lane  
Stocksmoor  
Huddersfield  
HD4 6XS