



Reasons for my objection include.

- Local provisions are already at capacity.
- Infrastructure of road, mainly the designated access of old land.
- Loss of local wildlife and the natural environment.

I would like to start this note by pointing out that the letter delivered to local residents has a different date of the 20th of August for the deadline to submit comments, however the deadline on this submission form is the 9th August. Kirklees would do well to change this.

I spoke to many residents in the summer of 2023 when the sale of this land was apparent, Families already struggle and have been unable to send their children to Birkenshaw first school or BBG. One lady described the frustration living opposite Birkenshaw primary and not able to get her children in. Children in this area of Kirklees are being sent to Tong School in Bradford.

The doctor's surgery which sits in the middle of the village work on behalf of a very few residents. The mystery prevails as to why it is so hard to not only register with this doctor's but receive an appointment within the surgery. I am not alone when I say that this doctor's surgery fails to serve its residents already. If the phone is answered you may be offered an appointment in Birstall which defeats the object.

Old Lane has been designated the access point for the new 3-4 bed detached properties, it is already an issue for current residents to manoeuvre. So much so that recently Arriva cancelled using this lane as a bus route, further depriving residents. Areas of this road are single file access as the road tightens, and residents have no other option to park their vehicles.

The clue is in the name, this is a 'lane', not a road. 18 new developments could potentially see up to 40 more vehicles coming and going on this road at peak times.

Finally, I would like to address the impending destruction of this wonderfully lush green space. The problem may stem back to the classification of this land as 'brown field' which is very generous. This would suggest it to be once or always been housing, it is very much green coated with mature sycamore and ash trees and is littered in vegetation and wildlife. A row of terrace houses similar to those on Allen Croft ran along one edge of this land, however, the majority of use has never been housing and in the decades previous it was a bowling green and allotments. The old council, 'Spen Valley' condemned croft street and the area has spent the last 70 years growing into the woodland that it now is. Ignored by Kirklees for years, the land has been maintained by the Liberal Club and residents of Allen Croft.

As a resident of Birkenshaw I have ignored for the last several years when it comes to speaking to Kirklees regarding this land. Goodbye to this supply of fresh air!