We are writing to express our strong opposition to the proposed development involving the conversion of the existing bridleway running through the ancient rural landscape from Briestfield Road converting into a road intended for use by HGV traffic. And to the building of a large intrusive building on open countryside.

This bridleway, clearly signposted as such, is an important and historic route entering countryside rich in natural and cultural heritage. The track features traditional dry-stone walling and sections of original cobbled surface, which are of historical and environmental significance. The area supports a well-established ecosystem, home to local flora and fauna, and is enjoyed by walkers, keen riders, ramblers, and nature enthusiasts who value the tranquillity and unspoiled character of this green corridor.

Many people visit the area to appreciate the unchanged, unspoilt outdoor space they are not fortunate to access on a daily basis. Offering people from the local community **free** access to exercise and fresh air which supports both physical and mental well being for all to enjoy.

The proposal would result in significant and irreversible damage to this fragile environment. The infrastructure necessary to support HGV usage would be highly invasive and inappropriate for such a narrow, predominantly single-track route. The increased traffic—particularly by HGV's—would dramatically increase noise, vibration, air pollution, and risk to the safety of all other road users, including pedestrians, cyclists, and horse riders.

The location of the proposed new entrance/exit only compounds these concerns. It is situated on a known hazardous bend, currently clearly marked by **multiple** official government road hazard warning signs, prominently displayed in both directions on the approach to what is now the bridleway. Introducing large, slow-turning vehicles at this already extremely dangerous point would only elevate the risk of accidents, potentially with fatal consequences.

Furthermore, Dimpledale Lane, which adjoins the proposed new junction, is an unadopted road, raising serious questions about maintenance responsibility, suitability, and future liability. The development would require crossing an old beck (housing newts - a protected species) which could cause structural instability, subsidence, and increased flood risk due to potential blockages. It is unclear who would bear responsibility for these long-term risks and their mitigation, which could become an ongoing burden for local residents and taxpayers.

The proposed farm building is close to houses spoiling views over open countryside. Such a large structure should not be necessary for the number of grazing cows allowed on the farm acreage. A calculation by the necessary governing bodies would determine that the farm buildings currently in situ would be sufficient to accommodate the cows/to land ratio currently housed on the farm.

Surely additional stock would need extra acreage to thrive?

Furthermore not all existing sheds have been approved by Kirklees MC and perhaps it might be wise to pass or reject those applications before any further applications/developments are even considered. A business called 2 valleys appears to operate from the farm, which is a non-agricultural business. A change of use would be appropriate going forward. If 2 valleys intend increasing their need for storage a better alternative would be for them to relocate to an industrial estate that can accommodate out of hours usage, HGV's, weight limits and increased traffic in general without creating all these new potential problems that are currently non-existent. Breech of planning laws is a matter for investigation. Overdevelopment in what has to date been a tiny hamlet, sets a dangerous precedent for others to follow.

Any increase in cattle numbers obviously leads to increased waste. This manure is currently being transported via the village road by large very heavy tractors, obviously impacting the lanes creating pot holes. This transportation route can be and should be avoided with immediate effect. A designated route, which is possible should cross over the fields and land preventing unnecessary movement involving tiny village roads with few, if any passing areas. It's an impossible task for the bus when it gets diverted for roadworks through the hamlet as the roads are not wide enough to accommodate them. The dustbin wagon suffers from the same problem. These departments should be approached for their professional opinions on the effect of increased traffic and size of vehicles anticipated should the development be considered.

Once transported to its destination the manure is deposited very close to houses. This manure not only smells terribly offensive but emits gases, such as ammonia. This can potentially cause a risk to public health, especially for children and vulnerable persons. Consideration should be given to residents of neighbouring farms by the applicants. Maybe consider housing the manure adjacent to Healey Farm to eradicate any upset to neighbours?

In summary, the proposed transformation of this bridleway into a road suitable for HGVs is entirely inappropriate. The roads in Briestfield village are not equipped to handle large scale development. The entire application threatens a unique and irreplaceable rural environment which can be prevented at the outset. The road alteration endangers public safety, and raises unresolved infrastructural and legal concerns. The building would impact adjoining houses causing upset and distress visually and emotionally, causing nearby residents constant sleep disturbances operating noisy, heavy machinery at all hours.

We urge the planning authority to reject this proposal in the strongest possible terms and preserve the integrity of our countryside for future generations.