



I would like to register my objection to the above planning application and request that the Local Authority reject the proposals in their entirety.

My objection is based on the following grounds:

1. The site is designated as green belt under the existing Local Authority Development Plan which is surely still in force until replaced by the new one under development at present. Therefore, housing development should be refused unless there are exceptional circumstances, "the Golden Rules". I contend that this planning proposal does not satisfy any of these rules. The reasons put forward by the applicant are demonstrably without merit.

2. Para 6.25 in the applicant's statement contains the words "no other areas or assets of particular importance would be adversely affected by the proposed development to which there would be any strong reasons to refuse the development proposed".

Well, the site sits on the aquifer which provides the water for Shepley Spring, a thriving, nationally well-known company. This aquifer is designated under National Policy as a legally protected Source Protected Zone 1 by the Environment Agency for licensed drinking water extraction. This SPZ has a presumption that no development should be allowed which would possibly affect the aquifer.

The applicant's own Mining Report contradicts his assertion (in Para 3.4 of his statement) that "Eastfield is one of the opportunities that has no physical constraints that restricts development" by stating that there are ground stability risks on the site and old coal workings. Therefore, the proposed development presents a very significant risk to the aquifer and the viability and very existence of Shepley Spring.

This company is an integral part of the village, being the provider of local employment and a vital supporter of community events and the local environment. If it leaves the village, the effect on the community will be massive and lead to Shepley slowly decaying.

3. It is proposed that the ONLY way out of the site for 200 + resident's cars and numerous delivery vehicles will be via a quiet, fairly narrow estate road comprising of a thin layer of tarmac over concrete which is already crumbling. This ONLY exit ends down a short, steep section to a junction with a very busy A road. This gradient of this steep section of the exit does not comply with Local Authority design standards and in winter is extremely dangerous, to the point that existing residents now avoid it entirely. If it becomes the only way out for the whole expanded estate hundreds of people will become effectively trapped in their homes. This seriously affects their living conditions