DC Admin

To: DC Admin
Subject: 2025/93043 Objection continued

I wish to formally object to planning application 2025/93043, referring to 14B Holly Bank Road (SHAPE) and change of use.

The planning application makes out there is no need for SHAPE as it states there is available childcare provision elsewhere, this point is simply not true, is misleading and ill thought through. The truth is that in Lindley there is currently not enough wrap around childcare and SHAPE is an absolutely vital resource and service for the local community. The childcare provision in Lindley is already at capacity with waiting lists. The fact that the application mentions extra capacity 'in Kirklees' is truly misleading as it's simply not feasible for parents to move to alternate childcare providers in Holmfirth or Cleakheaton when their family resides in Lindley. Reducing the childcare capacity in Lindley in this way would also likely be in direct conflict with council policy PLP 48 and PLP 49.

During the last 10 years over 500 family homes have been added to Lindley, with developments such as Lindley park on Lindley Moor, development on Plover road, Harron Homes on Wadsworth Fold, Harron Development on Burn Road (with another recent application for 29 more homes). Lindley is a thriving community with an abundance of working families who need childcare in order to continue working. Available data trends show Lindley will continue to grow and thrive and if anything will need even more childcare provision. The last thing we want to do is remove what little we already have.

SHAPE also provides an inclusive and welcoming environment for children with Special Educational Needs & Disabilities or SEND. On this I can speak with personal experience that within Lindley SHAPE is the only provision that has the capability to care for my son who is on the autism spectrum, other provisions simply told us they could not provide for his needs. Without SHAPE my wife and I would have had to either significantly reduce our hours at work to meet our caring responsibilities or move house as driving longer distances to and from provisions is simply not feasible for us due to my son's needs.

I firmly believe that losing SHAPE will have a negative effect on the character of the area even harmful. SHAPE is part of this community, walking to and from SHAPE and bumping into people you know and your children saying hello to each other makes a community, my son attends with many of his class mates. Having local, embedded childcare provision adds to the attractiveness of Lindley and will continue to attract more families and further business and investment. 4 flats may make a tiny bit more profit for the building owner but definitely won't outweigh the long term damage to the

community of losing this essential facility as well as the long term decrease in income for the local businesses who benefit from over 80 families attending 5 days a week and also through the summer holidays.

The planning application makes no note of the disturbance and noise it will cause to neighbouring residents and the community as a whole. Opposite 14b Holly Bank
Road are a number of elderly residents residing in bungalows. The noise and disturbance of loud building work and vans and lorries coming and going with multiple site workers and materials will significantly disrupt and disturb their daily life and will likely go on for months. The elevation of the apartments will also overlook their properties vastly reducing their privacy which contravenes article 8 of the ECHR which guarantees respect for private and family life, nothing noted in the planning application justifies any interference with this.

Due to the close proximity of Lindley Infants and Junior school and the Dance school next door the hundreds of children walking around this area during multiple times of the day will be put at risk by the increased number of large commercial vehicles constantly coming and going from the proposed site of re development. These drivers may not be local to the area and may not be as careful and cautious as local residents who know there are always young children around, thus having a negative impact on the safety of the highway for our most vulnerable community members.

The noise of the redevelopment/changing to 4 flats will also disturb and disrupt lessons at both Lindley Infants and Lindley Junior school negatively impacting the children's learning and school experience. Both these schools have provision for children with SEND and the loud construction noises may upset some children resulting in them being unable to attend school whilst building work is being carried out.

Unfortunately I can't see how the trustees of Lindley Band's reasons for wanting a change of use can outweigh the service that SHAPE provides to the Lindley community. The trustees themselves have said they have problems getting members and currently have zero young members, I would like to know what other measures they've taken to ensure the longevity of the band as this one seems quite drastic and detrimental to the community it's trying to stay part of.

The planning application mentions similar plans for getting youngsters involved in playing brass instruments have been successful in other parts of the country but provides no details at all of who what or where. The uptake of brass instruments is clearly on the decline and worryingly the hobby has documented issues with sexism, diversity and inclusion. Unfortunately I can't see how the trustees plan is more beneficial than maintaining an absolutely essential wrap around child care service that has proved itself for the last 10 years to be completely invaluable to the people of Lindley.

Yours faithfully,