Address: 42, Church Lane, Mirfield, WF14 9HX

Search application details

Application number: 2025/93355	
What is the application for?:	Erection of 75 residential dwellings with associated landscaping, open space, hi
Address of the site or building:	Land off, Woodward Court, Mirfield, WF14 0PY
Postcode:	LS15 8ZB

User comments

Type of comment: An objection	
Do you wish your comments to be published on the website anonymously?	No

I know that the council has an obligation to provide housing. I also know that people need houses; and developments such as this one generate jobs. However I respectfully submit that over the years Mirfield has made a significant contribution to the housing stock of Kirklees which is out of proportion to its size. It's worthy of note that much of the remaining green space is private land.

The land is located on the edge a residential area and provides access to a rural setting for the local community. The footpaths around the fields are used by ramblers and dog walkers. It also provides the habitat for wildlife. The Balderstone Fields, through custom and practice over many years, have been used as a recreational space. The fields are an amenity and are highly valued by the local community, and should be kept as safeguarded land as designated in the Local Plan.

Access to open spaces for informal play should now be a planning priority. The Fields in Trust 'six-acre standard' now known as Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play indicates a significant shortfall in Mirfield. Many areas are now only available for recognised organisations to use; and informal use is not permitted. The Every Child Matters Agenda states that all children should have the opportunity to stay healthy and safe. Safe playing areas are essential to this and would help with the growing problem of child obesity.

I walk in this area, and am entitled to fresh air and exercise. There is little enough public open space in Mirfield
Green space is the lungs of a town. If this amenity continues to be diluted, then residents will leave, no-one will replace them, houses will remain empty, and degeneration will ensue.

Mirfield's infrastructure has been a nightmare for the residents since before Bellway's first application way back in 1983 when only 45 dwellings were planned. Traffic has got worse over the years because schools no longer have catchment zones and children are brought into the area. Also, an increased number of private vehicles use the roads

are brought into the area. Also, an increased number of private vehicles use the roads, because public transport is neither reliable nor convenient.

A further access into Hepworth Lane will only serve to exacerbate a pre-existing problem with this narrow road. I shouldn't have to plan journeys around traffic jams, yet I already need to do so every school day now. Seventy five more dwellings is going to make it even worse for me.

SL2163 in the Local Plan Inspection stated that Hepworth Lane was unsuitable for intensification; and the overall conclusion was that the site was not deliverable or developable during the Local Plan period,

According to the Kirklees website there are 181 brownfield sites that could be used instead of green fields to increase housing stock.

Bellway Homes have submitted planning applications four times over the years. Each one has been rejected, and rightly so. Nothing has changed. Indeed things are now worse because of the previously stated reasons. Please reject this planning application.