About the application

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?	Yes

2025/93355 Balderstone Fields, Mirfield

I've lived in Mirfield for over 42 years and now know it well, particularly the road network around Crossley Fields School, Flash Lane and Woodworth Court/Hepworth Lane.

Highway & Pedestrian Safety: The local area is a mix of old narrow lanes and houses and new roads built to accommodate the growth of new mainly residential properties. Narrow roads and parking "pinch-points" make the area dangerous, particularly with obstructed pavements near Crossley Fields School. The area is very dangerous for both road users and pedestrians. Flash Lane is an unofficial one-way road and depends on someone giving way to allow oncoming traffic to pass from either direction. To suggest that the proposed estate should feed out of Hepworth Lane into this would only make a bad situation even worse. At school times this area is difficult to nearly impossible with people parking wherever they can to drop off or collect children. It's highly dangerous.

Inadequate Infrastructure: Proposed speed-reduction features don't fix the core issues: too much traffic, lack of road width, poor visibility, and missing footways. The speed of traffic is generally not a problem as the roads are so often gridlocked. Pedestrians, largely children going to and from school are in danger routinely.

Gridlock: The cumulative impact with other developments (like Northorpe Lane) will cause chaos for residents and has potential to delay emergency services. Other on-going developments and proposals for more building especially at this end of Mirfield will cause chaos. Emergency vehicles already struggle to navigate these roads. Large vehicles regularly get trapped by parked cars especially at school times.

Environmental Damage: This development is a direct threat to our local nature and biodiversity, destroying habitats that can never be replaced. Almost no open spaces remain in Mirfield. Those that do exist are small with limited appeal, Knowl Park and Battyeford field off Stocks Bank Road are little more than patches of grass. Our wildlife has been pushed to the edges, and now Balderstone fields are set to be lost too. We no longer have hedgehogs, and are desperately seeking fresh habitat as they too lose their familiar environment. The existing infrastructure cannot cope with additional housing in this location. I believe that Mirfield was so named due to its marshy nature, and with no fields remaining flooding is sure to become more of a problem.

General: Just because this field is not currently built on does not mean that it should be developed and Mirfield lose yet another green space. What has changed from the previous application which was declined to make this new one with even more houses now better. Yes more housing is needed in Kirklees but not when it in the wrong place and to the detriment of the area and local people.