



I object to this contentious application for the following reasons:-

**SCALE** This development is large (at over 100 houses) The village stands at present at 370 houses, building 123 more means an increase of over 33%. Many planning authorities recommend a proportional growth of no more than 10% and even then it is staggered otherwise the infrastructure can't cope. (Kirklees Publication Draft Local Plan Spatial Development Strategy and Settlement Appraisal Technical Paper 2.7 quotes "Larger areas can accommodate more development") Upper Cumberworth is small with only 663 residents, it is in Rural Kirklees and not in The Kirklees Development Plan. Viewed from above the proposed development is out of scale proportionally to the rest of the village.

**SUSTAINABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY** Housing closer to Huddersfield and Dewsbury is what is needed. Upper Cumberworth is rural, many miles away from these places, high above sea level and snow line! (LP20 and NPPF110/115) In reality Upper Cumberworth has very limited employment and facilities-making a car necessary with all the associated emissions.

#### **INFRASTRUCTURE**

**WATER** Recently Yorkshire Water was the first to impose a hosepipe ban in this country blaming the fact that there's too many people and the need for another reservoir. We need to stop building more houses until we can ensure there's enough water for the houses already built. Building so many houses will have a detrimental effect on the local water pressure.

**DRAINS** The old Victorian drainage system is collapsing all the way down to Denby Dale. I believe that this system can't be enlarged due to underground gas storage pipes.

**ELECTRICITY** There won't be enough power to supply 123 more halogen hobs and EVC's etc:-

**ROADS** Kirklees recently passed plans for another quarry in Upper Cumberworth resulting in a further 120 HGV's a day using Barnsley Road past the entrance to the proposed site. Local roads are already overloaded.

**BROADBAND** Will be diluted.

**PO** Won't cope! With no PO now in Shepley and Denby Dale PO not always open.

**GREEN BELT** This field is a finger of open countryside providing a visual link with the rural landscape beyond. It provides the rural character and appearance of "Upper Cumberworth." This much photographed field they are hoping to build on (even appearing on the village calendar) is 100% green belt, it is productive, agricultural land, growing crops for our ever increasing population. We shouldn't consider building here until every other brown belt land has been considered first.

**ECOLOGY** A beautiful, landmark tree (our own sycamore gap) stands in the centre of this pretty, poppy and cornfield. Kites are regularly seen soaring above and it backs onto a bluebell filled ancient woodland where , deer, birds of prey, bats and the rare hairy northern wood ant resides.

With all the recent building especially in local villages, there will soon be no such thing as a village in HD8. Don't set a precedent for building on green belt with no good reason. Please refuse this application.