

About the application

Application number: 2025/93572	
What is the application for?:	Outline application with all matters reserved, bar vehicle access into the site,
Address of the site or building:	Land South of, Barnsley Road, Upper Cumberworth, Huddersfield, HD8 8NN
Postcode:	

User comments

Type of comment: An objection	
Do you wish your comments to be published on the website anonymously?	Yes
<p>As a resident of the village for over 20 years, I fundamentally object to this planning application on the grounds that it would negatively impact the nature of the village, its ecology and infrastructure forever.</p> <p>Greenbelt Land - First and foremost, by its very definition, greenbelt land should be protected and building on it is inappropriate. The suggestion that this is somehow low grade or even grey belt land is untrue. The land in question is being actively farmed and has been for decades. Currently crops are being grown for local sheep to eat – this is sustainable farming! These plans are not in KMC local plan and will cause ‘sprawl’ of one village into the next, given that developers have their eyes on other areas adjacent near Denby Dale and Birdsedge, the entire area will end up as a town rather than separate villages with their own unique identities.</p> <p>Visual impact - This field is the first green field you see as you approach the hills to the village, giving spectacular long distance views from Barnsley road and from Birdsedge, these views frame the setting of the ancient woodland and are valued and loved by all who live in and visit the village having a positive effect on our wellbeing. The route around the field and to the woods is a path used constantly all year round by people walking, cycling, running and generally enjoying the countryside for our health and well-being. It is such an important part of or village life.</p> <p>Ancient Woodland - There are very strong feelings across the whole village and wider visitors that the ancient woodland and its ecology would be irreversibly damaged. This is a wildlife corridor with deer, badgers, bats all living in the woods, not to mention all the other creatures and plant life. There have been reports of archeological remains being found in the proposed development area, this cannot be bulldozed and built upon. The proposed development would finish up around 10 metres from the Ancient Woodland. As I understand it the buffer zone should be 50 metres. This will kill a lot of the trees by damaging their root systems and push out wildlife that will not be able to live next to a housing estate.</p> <p>Scale of the development and impact on other infrastructure - As a small rural village, Upper Cumberworth, the proposed number of houses which would be placed on a large</p>	

Upper Cumberworth, the proposed number of houses which would be classed as a 'large development' and would increase the size of the village by a third. This is not a reasonable proposal to consider. Many planning authorities recommend a proportional growth of no more than 10% and even then it is staggered otherwise the infrastructure just can't cope – this would certainly be the case in our village.

Highway safety issues - Most households nowadays have 2 cars, this would equate to thousands more journeys through the village every year, causing additional pollution, traffic and road safety problems. As all villagers and visitors know, there are some accident spots – three particular junctions are accident danger spots 1) the Sovereign crossroads, 2) the intersection between Carr Hill Road and Penistone Road and 3) the intersection between Carr Lane and Cross Lane. These are all widely used, the latter two as cut-throughs, depending on direction of travel. They have all been considered as a serious safety problem for many years. The negative impact on future road safety if this development goes ahead with all the various people and all the increased deliveries households have will be immense.

To add to this, 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.

Utilities - The water network cannot cope or be properly supported by Yorkshire Water as there are inadequate pumping facilities. The suggestion to put a pumping station next to the woods would result in foul discharge into the wood, damaging the present ecology. The Victorian drainage system is collapsing all the way down to Denby Dale. The view is that this system can't be enlarged due to underground gas storage pipes. As for electricity, there won't be enough power to supply 123 more houses with their various halogen hobs, electric vehicles and such like. Most of the houses in the development are not first-time buyer houses so the chances are they will be families and large consumers of electricity and water.

To summarise, other HD8 villages are currently being decimated by developers. Green fields and countryside being lost forever. Kirklees, please stop this now before there are no more villages and please refuse this application.

On a final separate note, Vivly living did not properly consult with the village as stated and did not follow their own stated process – this is not a reason for objection obviously, but I would like to make it clear that the developers should be very aware that almost the entire village objects to their plans.