



I object to this development on the following grounds.

It is green belt that has been farmed productively until now. It is NOT 'grey belt', it is NOT substandard quality and our local plan does not include this field for new development. Applications must follow the correct process through the system of local plans else what is the point of it?

Motorists simply do not comply to the 30 and 40 mph speed limits on any road in the village. Kirklees will not provide any speed abatement measures. This development of 123 houses will add 200+ vehicles to the immediate problem plus other similar developments in the area. The main road is a constant flow of traffic to the M1 from 7am every day. Children wait at the bus stop with not a metre of pavement to protect them. Carr Hill road, with no pavements will be used to avoid the Sovereign junction. The crossroads at the Star and junction at the top of Carr Hill road see accidents on a regular occurrence. Many walkers, runners, cyclists and horse riders use this road every day with so many near misses reported but ignored by Kirklees. Waiting for a fatality to act ignores the warnings, needs and wishes of the residents.

The adjacent ancient woodlands harbour much wildlife and is used constantly by the villagers. This wildlife must be protected. The environment impact of 123 new houses on the boundary of this woodland will have a detrimental effect to this wildlife through noise, light and waste pollution. The drainage system already struggles. Concreting this area will lead to impact further down stream in Denby Dale.

123 New houses increases the size of the village by 30%. I would not object to small organic growth of the village on land designated in the local plan, via proper process. Green belt is there for a very good reason and it's removal cannot be undone. This development will completely block the vista from Birdsedge down through the valley into Upper Cumberworth with unimaginative, crammed housing. This is not small organic growth nor is it in any local plan, nor is it in any way 'in keeping' with the village.

I remind Kirklees Council that it is here to serve the people who vote and pay for it. Please listen to and prioritise local residents, their quality of living and help improve the existing village as it is now and not be beholden to housing developers and housing density targets. There are many Brown field sites in Kirklees for such things. There is also a local plan, and in it this is Green Belt.