



I would like to take this opportunity to oppose and object against the proposed Development on Greenbelt Land adjoining Barnsley Road, Upper Cumberworth for a number of reasons.

The proposed large Development of 123 properties should not be considered on a site that is registered officially as Greenbelt and which stands outside of local plan. The whole idea of designated Green Belt is to keep land areas permanently open, protects the local countryside and preserves the character of historic locations, also encouraging Brownfield re-development. The proposed site will completely alter the current landscape, views and appearance of what is still a small and traditional Village location, within a plot that also currently houses tree's with PTO's not to mentioned numerous habitat.

The other issue and concern I have is the close proximity to the ancient Woodland, St Stephens Wood. It is perceived that this development may stand within 15 meters of this Woodland. Does this not come significantly closer than what the buffer zone would allow and if so WHY WOULD KIRKLEES PERMIT THIS? Developing so close will have a huge and long term detrimental effect on tree root's, the life expectancy of the existing tree's as well as the array of habitat, wildlife and animals within this and the surrounding location. I would also fear what impact developing the land would have on the streams and waters that run through the Woodland and would like to ask Kirklees or the proposed Developer how they will manage and more importantly continue to monitor this effect and impact? My family and many others families within the Village and wider surrounding Villages use these Woods on a daily and weekly basis to enjoy walks and the tranquility that they provide. This I fear will be hugely damaged and likely never return to its current state.

The final issue I feel should also be the significant increase in road use with the addition of 123 new properties, most likely to have 2 cars per property. The quality of the existing side roads serving the main Barnsley Road are very limited and poor. Visibility is often restricted and volume has already increased and will continue to increase with the use of the Quarry and tip. Can these side roads actually take a further 200 plus cars on daily commutes and journeys. Our children are already made to stand at very poor and unprotected Bus Stops and those looking to attend the local Primary School are restricted to park close by and have to make use the local Pub car park and then cross this extremely busy main A-Road. The very limited pathways and pavements on both Carr Hill Road and Cumberworth Lane make pedestrian use of these areas very precautions and will only increase the likelihood of accidents continuing to increase.

I fully understand the need to increase housing numbers to meet demand, but would question whether the development of Greenbelt is the best approach to this until the Council have exhausted all other options they have available to them?