

DC Admin

From:
Sent: 18 February 2026 10:22
To: DC Admin
Subject: Objection to planning at Upper Cumberworth 2025/60/93572/E

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I object to the above application for planning for the following reasons:

1. There only appears to be a buffer zone of around 10 m between the houses and ancient woodland (Upper Stephen Wood). With over 120 houses this would classify as a major development and the recommended housing distance for this is 50 m.
2. There is significant wildlife in the ancient woodland, including foxes, hedgehogs, stoats, weasels, roe deer, newts, kestrels, sparrowhawks, buzzards, woodpeckers, owls etc, all of which forage on the planning application field.
3. There is a pedestrian connection shown directly between the development and the ancient woodland. This would put significant strain on the woodland and the surrounding footpaths.
4. The only pavement shown on the south side of Barnsley Road is directly adjacent to the development. Despite the fact that 2 Pedestrian Crossings are shown on the development drawings, there should be a pavement connection to Carr Hill Road along the south side of Barnsley Road. No pavement exists here at present.
5. Traffic along Barnsley Road. The existing planning (2023/62/91280/CEO) at Bromley Farm Quarry, which has not become operational yet, had a number of car and HGV journeys which need to be added to the total in any traffic survey. Note that most of the HGV journeys go up Barnsley Road, past the development, and then turn into Carr Hill Road to travel to Hepworth Iron Company at Crow Edge.
6. Hairy Wood Ants exist in the ancient woodland (Stephen Wood). They are on the European IUCN Red List. They will be adversely affected by the increased footfall in the area (the population of Upper Cumberworth will virtually double if this housing development goes ahead).
7. There is a joint footpath and cycleway adjacent to the development. However it leads nowhere at all and there is no cycleway on the north side of Barnsley Road either. So where do cyclists go after this 200 m of cycleway?
8. A number of springs exist in Stevens Wood and all have existed since the earliest maps. When Park Dyke runs dry in the summer months, these springs help keep the flow going in Park Dyke and when it meets the Dearne at the lower end of Green Wood. These springs all appear out of the field where the proposed development is. They are not on any mapping and will be disturbed if the development goes ahead.
9. Since 2019, on behalf of The River Fly Partnership, I have been looking after river fly monitoring in the Upper Dearne Woods. The River Fly Partnership is working to conserve river flies and protect river water quality, a good quality river should hold a healthy population of invertebrates in the spring and summer months. Since 2019 I have been regularly checking the streams (using standardised methodology) and I have been scoring on the ARMI scale an average of over 10. Whereas the average of all areas was 9 (and there were over 10,000 samples in 2025). No flow in the summer would mean a score of 0.

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