

(ANONYMOUS ON LINE)

PLANNING REFERENCE: UPPER CUMBERWORTH 2025/60/93572/E

I wish to register an objection to the above Planning Application.

The reasons for the objection are, as follows:-

1. This Green Belt farmland was not included for development and is Designated as Green Belt in the Adopted Local Plan. Kirklees residents have not been given an opportunity of consultation or objection to the local plan being changed.
2. In spite of the above, Kirklees Planning has allowed an application to build 123 houses on designated non-development and Green Belt land stating the plan is to be reviewed.
3. This development will destroy valuable Green Belt farmland involving the removal of trees that have been established for over 60 years and are currently protected by a TPO.
4. It will take away valuable regularly farmed land which has always been properly farmed by rotation with animals i.e. cows and sheep and/or annual crop rotation with wheat, corn, root crop, grasses and fallow.
5. Building on this land will destroy a vibrant wildlife ecology. Wildlife residents include a colony of bats, owls, voles and pheasants. The field is regularly visited by deer and wild geese who feed after grain harvesting prior to migration. Ring necked doves and nesting squirrels, hares, seagulls and a variety of wild birds.
6. It will destroy a visual amenity, revered by locals and admired by countless visitors, walkers, school children and dog walkers as they visit and explore the Ancient woodland and River Dearne.
7. It will put more pressure on the Ancient wood by overloading the footfall and dog walking and thus causing severe risk on protected species these include large rare ant colonies, beavers, birds such as Kingfishers, Wood Peckers and a variety of other birds, as well as Bluebells, wild flowers, trees and bushes.

8. The development would represent a major increase in traffic trying to access and utilise the Barnsley Road, especially when coupled with a decision to allow further quarrying and gravel removal at the Bromley site using high numbers of large lorries. The impact on already congested roads like the Barnsley Road and Carr Hill Road which itself has become an escape route for lorries and cars trying to avoid congestion and gain exit to Penistone, Holmfirth, Huddersfield and the M1. Carr Hill Road is totally inadequate with most of it having no pedestrian footpaths next to housing, The risk of accidents will be greatly increased.
9. Such a large scale development would result in unsustainable pressure on local domestic services. **(a) Water Supply** already suffering from low pressure problems and frequent leakages causing repeated road works both in the Barnsley Road and Cumberworth Lane causing major delays and further deterioration to crumbling road surfaces. **(b) Electricity Outages** already frequent due to supply configuration, causing disruption to Domestic Appliances and Technical Equipment. **(c) Drainage and Sewage** already inadequate and problematic.
10. **Bus and train services:-** Both currently inadequate and totally unsuitable for further numbers. **Buses:-** run at best hourly and unreliable, those that do run meander from village to village taking longer to arrive than a bicycle, if one could ride that far. Plus no return services after 6pm and no service on Sundays. **Train Station:-** too far to walk and using cars to access useless as the car park can only accommodate 6 or 8 cars and no further parking space with 200 metres.
11. Roads not properly maintained so huge increase in volume will not only cause further deterioration but will also increase environmental impact with increased noise levels, increased pollution and threats to safety.
12. This number of extra housing is not required by locals as there are already several properties of the same proposed price range unsold. The Applicant is hoping to sell these by bringing in residents from other areas quoting "Experience Rural Living" which they are in fact destroying.
13. This proposed development will have a severe impact on the market value of existing properties, taking away the "Rural Living Experience" which Residents grew up into or bought into.
14. The field in question has long acted as a flood plain for Carr Hill so by blocking will have the effect of causing problems in woods and other areas.

15. Contrary to applicants spiel we do not think there would be much resistance to a few properly sited houses but the proposal to build a huge Estate with its effect on the environment and local ecology purely for profit as it is easier than building on Brown Field sites which are available and against the wishes of local residents with help of Kirklees Planning is frankly staggering.