



Re Planning Application – 2025/60/93572/E To build 123 houses on Green Belt land in Upper Cumberworth. – OBJECTION

I wish to object to this application. The land is designated Green Belt and should be protected and never built on. It is prime agricultural land and has been farmed continuously for several hundred years. There are no 'very special circumstances' that would allow this land to be released for building on. The housing shortage is not in this area. Indeed, there has been far too much building in Shepley and Denby Dale and the houses do not immediately sell. A quick look on Right Move shows many houses for sale in the wider area, in all price brackets.

The field has its own unique ecology. I have read the Ecology report submitted by Vivly's 'expert'. How can someone who has not been to visit the site make a comprehensive assessment from a photo? It does not show the deer that visit regularly, the geese that come down in the field or the bats flying round the site at night.

The field is next to the ancient woodland, and a building site of this magnitude will have a detrimental effect on the woodland. The runoff from the site during construction will contaminate the stream – home to our native Crayfish. There are also Hairy Wood Ants which will be badly affected by the increase in footfall. The buffer zone should be at least 50m, not the proposed 10m

Despite what the developers would have you believe there are NO 'good transport links' and a car is very much a necessity in Cumberworth. The main road is a busy one, all the junctions around here are notorious for near bumps and crashes and the dangerous Sovereign crossroad is just up the road. 123 houses – 250 more cars using these roads, plus an extra 120 lorries a day when the quarry commences – it is a fatality waiting to happen.

It is interesting to note that both the shop and the pub – the only local businesses that might benefit from all these extra houses – have both objected to the plans.

The local sewerage and water pipes are antiquated and cannot cope with their current load. We spent much of last year with low water pressure and burst after burst in and around Cumberworth. They do not have the capacity to cope with another 123 houses and the pumping station that the developers are proposing is guaranteed to fail. This will mean more contamination in the ancient woodland.

Please Kirklees, do not pass this application. Once built on it can never be returned to its idyllic pastoral beauty. Let the farmers continue farming. Thank you.

Please do not publish my name and address. I wish to remain anonymous.