

DC Admin

From:
Sent: 15 May 2026 23:20
To: DC Admin;
Subject: Planning application objection at Upper Cumberworth 2025/60/93572/E

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My name is Gemma Shearing,
I would like you to include my name but not my address.

I would like to make a further objection regarding the outline planning application at Upper Cumberworth 2025/60/93572/E.

My main reasoning behind this is that I have recently read the views of THE FORESTRY COMMISSION AND THE CPRE (CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT RURAL ENGLAND).

The Forestry Commission raised significant concerns about this development.

- They were concerned that the proposed 15m buffer is NOT sufficient. They said It may protect roots, but it won't prevent wider damage to the woodland. And that a much larger buffer is needed.
- They said that the Ancient woodland is irreplaceable. And that It cannot be recreated or compensated for!
- they said that under national planning rules, this means the application should be REFUSED unless there are wholly exceptional reasons... and none have been demonstrated.
- They said the Biodiversity Net Gain cannot be used as a workaround — ancient woodland sits outside those rules.
- They said that the government may even need to be involved before any decision is made due to the significance of the site.
- The said that it is important that existing trees should be retained wherever possible.

The CPRE (Campaign to Protect Rural England) also objected and raised very significant concerns:

- They mentioned the detrimental harm to Green Belt – They said that this site is designated Green Belt, and developing it risks the coalescence of neighbouring settlements — something Green Belt protections are specifically designed to prevent.

- They mentioned the Unsustainable Location – Due to the scale of the proposal, limited local services, and distance to key facilities, this development would lead to a major increase in car-dependent travel.
- They mentioned the Threat to Ancient Woodland – The site lies close to Stephen Wood, part of the ancient Upper Dearne Woods, raising serious environmental concerns.

Another point I would like to make is that there has recently been changes to the quality of the land. Around a month ago rubble and rocks were thrown in to the field edges to make it look like the quality of the land was not that of prime arable farming land.

I can assure you that was not there before that time and had been placed there to make it look unfarmed which is not the case.

Yours sincerely
Gemma Shearing.