

## About the application

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| Application number: 2026/91494   |                                                                                  |
| What is the application for?:    | Outline application for erection of residential development, including associate |
| Address of the site or building: | Land off, Penistone Road, Birdsedge, Huddersfield, HD8 8XP                       |
| Postcode:                        |                                                                                  |

## User comments

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| Type of comment: An objection                                         |     |
| Do you wish your comments to be published on the website anonymously? | Yes |

I wish to object to the application to build 70 homes on greenfield land.

Birdsedge is a small village of approximately 170 houses with a small First School, chapel and village hall. A projected increase once the proposed development is completed of over 40% in the number of houses in Birdsedge would destroy the nature of the village and be completely out of proportion. Kirklees Local Plan Strategy and Policies LP2 requires development to protect and enhance the qualities which contribute to the character of the village and LP3 provides that development should reflect the settlement's size and function. Under 5.10 in relation to rural Kirklees 'market strength suggests brownfield sites are more viable' and 'limited opportunities for people to work and shop locally, more people in this part of Kirklees commute longer distances by car.'

The village presently is served by the Denby Darts D3 bus service which runs approximately every 2 hours with no service on Sunday plus school services in term time and a weekly service to Meadowhall.. The nearest shop is the co-op at Sovereign Crossroads involving a walk along a busy main road of approximately 1200 metres and the need to cross Barnsley Road at a difficult junction. The nearest rail stations are at Shepley and Denby Dale, not within walking distance being over 2000m away, serving a line with limited services and with limited or no car parking spaces at the stations. Active Travel England (Standing Advice Note) recommends for development approval there should be 'high-frequency' bus stops within 400m or a rail station within 800m. There are minimal employment opportunities within walking distance so the proposed development cannot be said to be sustainable.

The construction of housing on this land will reduce the distant views enjoyed from the village including that of Upper Cumberworth Church as mentioned in Kirklees Upper Cumberworth Conservation Area Appraisal – 'From the elevated situation of Birdsedge ....., the clustered nature of the stone slated roofs and church tower are an attractive historical and geographical point of reference in the distance.' The development will be highly visible from the nearby public footpaths.

The potential drainage of surface water into the River Dearne from attenuation tanks is of concern with flooding problems known about downstream in Denby Dale.

I am concerned about the lack of information concerning foul drainage from the site. The only reference I can see is in the application itself which mentions drawing number AMA-300655-001-Rev P2.. However I cannot see that this drawing is included in the supporting information. Presently foul drainage from Birdsedge is through a sewer running from the village across fields and into Upper Cumberworth. Yorkshire Water frequently need to deal with leakage problems in this system. Whilst the sewer eventually connects into a sewer in Barnsley Road, Yorkshire Water, in connection with another proposed development, advise that there is not capacity to serve any large development.