

DC Admin

From: [redacted]
Sent: 15 July 2026 18:03
To: DC Admin
Subject: Application 2026/60/91494/E

I wish to strongly object to this planning application.

As someone who values our village and the surrounding countryside, I am deeply concerned about the long-term impact this development would have. Once this land is built on, it is lost forever, and I do not believe the harm caused can be justified.

One of my biggest concerns is the loss of Green Belt land. The Green Belt exists to prevent villages from merging, protect open countryside, and preserve the unique character of our community. This proposal would permanently remove part of that protection and set a worrying precedent for future developments. Approving this application would make it increasingly difficult to resist further encroachment onto surrounding countryside.

The site is also home to valuable wildlife and natural habitats. Development would result in habitat loss and the displacement of many species, including protected and declining birds and other wildlife that rely on this environment. Once these habitats are destroyed, they cannot simply be recreated elsewhere. We have a responsibility to protect the natural environment for future generations rather than sacrifice it for short-term development.

I am also concerned about the impact on the character of the landscape. The countryside surrounding the village is one of the reasons people choose to live here. Replacing it with a large housing estate would fundamentally change the appearance and feel of the area, eroding the rural character that makes our village special.

The pressure on local infrastructure cannot be ignored. Existing GP services, schools, roads, buses and other public services are already under strain. An additional 70+ homes could mean approximately 90–140 more vehicles within the village, increasing congestion, reducing highway safety and placing further pressure on services that are already struggling to meet current demand. There are also serious concerns regarding drainage and flooding. The leaflet highlights that Yorkshire Water has confirmed this site is not included within its planned infrastructure upgrades. Without appropriate sewer capacity, this development risks placing additional strain on an already limited system and increasing the likelihood of drainage and flooding problems.

I also understand that Kirklees Council has previously assessed this site and rejected its release from the Green Belt. The Council concluded that the eastern boundary does not follow a permanent, defensible Green Belt boundary and that releasing the land would create significant risks of encroachment, isolation and conflict with the Local Plan. The Council also recorded that there were no exceptional circumstances to justify removing this land from the Green Belt. It is difficult to understand what has changed to justify a different conclusion now.

Finally, I am concerned about the impact this development would have on the setting of local heritage assets, including the historic mill and the 1638 farmhouse. These buildings form part of the area's history and identity, and their rural setting should be preserved.

Our village has already experienced significant growth, with over 70 new homes representing around a 40% increase. Continuing to expand at this rate without the supporting infrastructure is simply unsustainable.

I respectfully ask the Planning Committee to refuse this application. The proposal conflicts with Green Belt policy, would harm wildlife and the countryside, place unacceptable pressure on local infrastructure, threaten highway safety, and undermine the character and heritage of our village. The long-term damage would far outweigh any short-term benefits.

Thank you for considering my objection.