

About the application

Application number: 2026/91494	
What is the application for?:	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RECEIVED. Outline application for erection of residential
Address of the site or building:	Land off, Penistone Road, Birdsedge, Huddersfield, HD8 8XP
Postcode:	

User comments

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

I wish to object to Planning Application 2026/91494 on the following grounds:

The development is not in accordance with the Local Plan and it lies entirely in the Green Belt; as such it would be inappropriate and harmful to the openness of this rural area. The Green Belt is intended to protect the countryside from encroachment and to preserve the setting and special character of the area, including the Grade II listed Birdsedge Mill and Birdsedge Farmhouse buildings. The Applicant's definition of the impact on the heritage of the area is "moderate", but this is a very much understated assessment as the Mill and Birdsedge Farmhouse contribute to the unique and local distinctiveness of the village. The site is of significant historical importance in its own right but it also lies close to the Conservation Area of Quaker hamlet at High Flatts, managed by Kirklees Council.

The A629 is a fast and very busy road that already creates problems for drivers, particularly those turning right or left from the junction of Birdsedge Lane next to the primary school. To add another junction for the new development would lead inevitably to serious accidents as is the case further along the road at the junctions of Carr Hill Road and Cumberworth Lane, two accidents recently occurring in July 2026 involving all the emergency services. The school and village hall add to the congestion at busy times with parking reducing the width of the road which another new junction would exacerbate further.

The wildlife in Birdsedge is wide ranging and includes protected species including barn owls and bats. The preliminary ecology appraisal has been superficial with inadequate evidence presented; the area is renowned for birds whose numbers are falling in the UK, including skylarks, house martins, swallows and curlews, and as such require more than box ticking and lip service in the appraisal process. There is a colony of bats that roost in or near Birdsedge Lane and use the intended development site to forage and hunt. It must be highlighted that artificial lighting and noise pollution will severely impact nocturnal corridors, including those used by bats that travel a few kilometres each night hunting for food. Evidence of the bats can be seen each evening in summer on Birdsedge Lane, flying over the intended site and surrounding countryside.

Finally other considerations include the fact that the village is ill served by public transport, has no pub or shop, the local GP Surgery is 20% over the safe patient limit and the school cannot cope with a 40% increase in households.

I ask you to reject this Planning Application.