

About the application

Application number: 2026/91494	
What is the application for?:	ADDITIONAL AND REVISED INFORMATION RECEIVED. Outline application for erection of
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
Application 2026/91495/E	
I wish to object to the proposed development in Birdsedge on the grounds that the scale of the development is disproportionate to the size and character of the existing village. Birdsedge is a small rural village with a population of approximately 350 residents. The proposed development would increase the village population by at least 40%, representing a very substantial and rapid increase in the number of residents. Such an increase is excessive in relation to the existing size, infrastructure and capacity of the village. Birdsedge has limited local public facilities and services, which are not even appropriate to the scale of the existing community. A population increase of this magnitude would place significant additional pressure on the few facilities it has and could result in existing services becoming overstretched. There is also a wider concern that because the existing residents increasingly rely on facilities and services in neighbouring villages and settlements they are already under pressure and have limited capacity. The development could therefore have impacts well beyond the immediate site, placing additional demands on schools, healthcare, transport, community facilities and other essential services in surrounding areas. The proposed increase is therefore not simply an addition of new homes; it represents a fundamental change in the scale of the village and risks placing an unsustainable burden on infrastructure that was not designed to accommodate such a rapid expansion. In this case, the proposed level of growth appears excessive and out of keeping with the capacity of Birdsedge and the surrounding settlements.	

I also wish to object to the proposed development due to the loss and potential harm to Green Belt and agricultural land, together with the impact on the surrounding natural environment.

The proposed site consists of farmed agricultural land within the Green Belt. The development would result in the permanent loss of productive agricultural land and would fundamentally alter the rural character and openness of the area.

The site is also surrounded by ancient woodland and established natural habitats, which provide an important environment for native wildlife and plant species. These habitats are valuable not only for biodiversity but also as part of the wider ecological network of the area. Development in such a location risks disturbing or fragmenting these habitats and causing the loss of species and biodiversity that cannot readily be replaced through new landscaping or mitigation.

Particular consideration should therefore be given to the potential impact on native plants, wildlife, birds, insects and other species that depend upon the existing agricultural land, woodland and surrounding habitats.

The protection of ancient woodland and established habitats should be given significant weight, particularly where development would result in the loss of open countryside and agricultural land. The environmental value of the site and its surroundings should not be considered in isolation, as the development could have wider cumulative effects on the local ecological network.

For these reasons, I believe the proposed development would cause unacceptable harm to the Green Belt, agricultural land, rural landscape and surrounding wildlife habitats. The existing land should be protected from inappropriate development in order to preserve its agricultural, ecological and environmental value for future generations.

Further to the above I also wish to object to the proposed development on the grounds of highway safety and the impact on the existing A629 highway network.

I live next to and face the A629, on the straight section of road close to where the new access junction for the proposed development is planned. I therefore have first-hand experience of the existing traffic conditions.

It is already a busy and heavily trafficked road, particularly during weekday peak periods between approximately 7:00–9:00am and 3:00–6:00pm. Despite the speed limit being 30mph, vehicles regularly appear to exceed this speed. This includes heavy goods vehicles (HGVs), and there are also occasions where vehicles overtake despite the existing traffic conditions.

At present, it can already be difficult and potentially hazardous to exit Birdsedge Lane onto the A629 so introducing an additional junction serving a significant new development would inevitably create further vehicle movements and additional points of conflict on an already busy section of road.

My concern is not simply about increased congestion; it is about road safety. Additional turning movements into and out of the proposed development, combined with existing traffic travelling at excessive speeds and the presence of HGVs, could increase the risk of collisions and make it more difficult for residents to safely access and leave Birdsedge Lane.

The proposed development would therefore add significant additional pressure to a highway network that is already busy at peak times and where there are existing concerns regarding traffic speed, overtaking and safe access.

Given the location of the proposed junction and the existing conditions on the A629, I do not believe it is safe or appropriate to proceed with the development.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that the planning application be refused.