

TO THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT AND COUNCILLORS OF KIRKLEES

I refer to a letter (copy enclosed) I sent to you before the May elections outlining the reasons why I thoroughly objected to the proposed housing development on the Standard Fireworks Site in Crosland Moor.

Whether you bothered to read it I can't tell now of course because I didn't get an acknowledgement or whether my objection was recorded at the recent Strategic Planning Committee Meeting that took place last week where it was given outline approval.

I had been given assurances by a Councillor that I would get invited to the meeting to say a few words about my objections. It didn't happen of course because the first time I knew of the outcome it was (as last time when this development became known to the general public) through the Huddersfield Examiner.

It was then that I decided to raise a petition in Crosland Moor and go to as many houses as I could before I was invited to address the meeting. The main reason I wanted to do this was to get the opinions of people in Crosland Moor face to face. I gave them all a copy of the above letter and asked each one of them that, if they agreed with the opinions I had expressed, would they sign my petition.

I was amazed by the swift agreement of 99% who I approached and the incredulity to the idea that this extra amount of housing in Crosland Moor could be contemplated, never mind approved. I also heard from people who are very cynical about why a council would pass such a controversial huge development in an already heavily populated area - and that is money. Is it true that for every house that is built the council coffers will increase by not only the council tax per property but by other revenue donated by the builder?

Perhaps I've been naive about all this but what I am sure about is that the people of Crosland Moor are very angry and are sure to make it known in the next ballot box in Crosland Moor because they don't know or don't care that it was the present national government that instigated the building of 31,000 houses in Kirklees. However, that doesn't mean that this council or any other council should build this amount of houses in an already overpopulated area with totally unsuitable roads to cope with all the extra traffic.

I approached as many houses as I could manage before I had a fall and decided to stop (after pressure from my family) and so I am now enclosing the petition which, I think, amounts to about 490.

5 Stonefield Avenue
Crosland Moor
Huddersfield Hd4 5QG

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Planning No. 2020 92546. Kate Mansell

Objection to a proposed large housing development on the Standard Fireworks site off Blackmoorfoot Road, Crosland Hill, Huddersfield.

It has been brought to my notice (through the Huddersfield Examiner) that planners are minded to wave through this proposed development of 770 houses. This number of houses in any environment is a huge amount for any community to deal with but, as I am sure you are aware, there is already another new housing development of 224 houses taking place roughly a mile and a half away down Blackmoorfoot Road on the old St Luke's hospital site.

The elephant in the room of course is the extra traffic which will ensue from these developments down Crosland Moor and the surrounding area and this will have a detrimental knock-on effect for both public transport as well as for car users.

Whichever way you look at this, it is going to be entirely unacceptable for the residents of Crosland Moor, never mind the schools traffic which is always a busy time for the route anyway.

I am well aware that Kirklees has been ordered to build 31,000 houses by the government as part of a drive to increase available housing but surely, even they would think this plan would be grossly unfair on the population of our area.

Please please, do not foist this amount of housing on Crosland Moor just because it will be a useful amount to knock off the required housing numbers. As well as the reasons I've given above to reject it, environmentally it will fail - the high places around our town have precious clean air which is a big plus when we live in such heavily populated areas.

Although I am in my late seventies and it probably won't affect my way of life by the time it is all developed, I am thinking of the younger generations to come. Come on Kirklees - don't leave them this tainted legacy!

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Huddersfield
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