

From:
To: [Site Allocations Plan](#)
Cc:
Subject: PDE00257_Re_ Building on site HG3-2, HG3-3
Date: 24 October 2015 15:00:13

Sent from my iPad

On 24 Oct 2015, at 14:57,

wrote:

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From:
Date: 24 October 2015 at 14:55:00 BST
To: sap@leeds.gov.uk
Subject: **Re: Building on site HG3-2, HG3-3**

Sorry -sent too soon.

We also object to these house building plans for the following reasons:

I) you have used the wrong house building targets - based on out of date statistics to set your target of 70,000. If you base your targets on the 2011 census the Leeds population is only likely to grow by 64,000 people - so far fewer houses are needed. Your target is inconsistent with both national policy & Leeds core strategy.

Ii) the use of Green belt land is inconsistent with national policy. These are beautiful green fields - they look great when you look across from Calverley on the other side of the valley as well as from Rawdon Billing. There is enormous recreational value in these fields. It's where I went sledging as a child and played wide games when I was a Scout. It's also where I ran cross country when I was at Rawdon C of E school.

Iii) the A65 is already a car park. There has been a slight improvement to Horsforth roundabout in recent months but it still takes an hour or so to drive in and out of Leeds. Again - thousands of hours of people's lives are being wasted every week. Apparently you conducted your traffic survey in school half term week - when traffic is much, much lighter. Why don't you repeat the survey in November or January to get a true picture of the traffic chaos we have to endure on a daily basis - and which you insist on exacerbating. Can you make further improvements to Horsforth roundabout and get Bradford council to put a left turn lane on the waste ground at Greengates lights to help the traffic flow along Apperley

Lane. Can you adopt the private road that goes through Esholt sewage works to divert some traffic away from the A65? Can you stop building any more houses?!?

Iv) schools, dentists and doctors are already at full capacity.

V) there are plenty of brown field sites. Why not build on them. Rawdon, Yeadon and Guiseley have already built on many brownfield sites - but there are plenty more in central and South Leeds. In my lifetime I have already seen the Silver Cross factory, Lea Mill and other mills become houses, as well as Sandos/Clariant and Highroyds. This is part of the reason that the A65 is already a car park! Apparently it is part of LCC Core strategy to develop brownfield sites before Greenbelt - so why don't you stick to your strategy? Have you conducted a comprehensive Greenbelt review as required by the inspector? Why not?

Vi) Rawdon is a lovely village. The character would be totally destroyed by your plans.

Vii) I was born in Rawdon & grew up there. I went to Rawdon C of E school (now called Saint Peters) and Benton Park. I went away to University and came back to this area (Yeadon) because it is a lovely area. I know loads of people in the area & have lived here almost all my life - I am approaching 50. None of my friends want to see any more houses being built in this area. Not a single one of them. Most won't take the time and effort to object but believe me - everybody is very angry about this! This appears to be a democratic failure - Leeds City Council imposing their will on the people who live in Rawdon/ Yeadon/ Guiseley against our wishes.

Each of the above reasons are good solid reasons why you should not be building more houses in Rawdon/ Yeadon or Guiseley. Collectively the argument is overwhelming - you must reconsider these plans! What can we do to stop you vandalising the area we live in? Your posters of 'your city, your plans' are a complete joke when the opposite is true - these aren't our plans. And your public consultation was a farce - the public weren't consulted at all.

These points also apply to site HG2-10 in Yeadon.

Please feel free to ring me (0789 6733562) or e-mail me or write to me (2, Plowmans Walk, Yeadon) if you want to discuss any of these points further.

Best Regards,

Ewen Pearson

Sent from my iPad

On 24 Oct 2015, at 14:15, Ewen
wrote:

Hi,

I am writing this on behalf of my elderly mother who does not have web-access.

My other is concerned about your plans to build on site HG3-2. In the 1970s my mother was close friends with people who lived on Knott Lane, adjacent to site HG3-2. Her friends children went sledging in field HG3-2. The next morning they discovered a huge hole that had collapsed overnight. The hole was approx 18 feet deep & 30 feet across. She dreads to think what would have happened if the collapse had occurred while the children had been playing. It turned out that the cause of the collapse was a bell pit. Bell pits were dug in medieval times to extract coal. Basically a hole was dug and expanded along the coal seam. These bell pits were not recorded (they date back to medieval times) - there are probably many more bell pits in field HG3-2. To give you an idea of how many bell pits there are in the area there are definitely other bell pits that have been discovered at the bottom of Rawdon Billing and in the corner of Saint Peter's Church. I also remember playing in a large hole in field HG3-4 as a child - that too might have been a collapsed bell pit. No-one knows how many undiscovered bell pits there are. I would suggest that it is unsafe to build houses in HG3-2 and HG3-4 and quite probably HG3-3.

Also - I grew up on Woodlands Drive and went to Rawdon C of E school. There was always a long queue to cross the A65 from Knott Lane to Layton Lane - up to 20 minutes each morning. Your plans to build another 250 houses in HG3-2, HG3-3 and HG2-12 will make this situation much worse - & will waste thousands of hours of people's lives.

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