

From:
To: [Site Allocations Plan](#)
Subject: PDE00677_Horsforth and Rawdon Planning Site Allocations
Date: 05 November 2015 23:15:33

41 West End Drive
Horsforth
Leeds LS18 5JR

Thursday 5th November 2015

Dear Government Planning Inspector,

I am writing in connection with the site proposals for development in Horsforth and Rawdon and, as a local resident of 23 years I wish to express my comments on your proposals.

I start with reference to HG2-41. The Horsforth Roundabout, despite its recent overhaul, struggles to cope with the volumes of traffic that pass through it and the subsequent commute down the A65 or along the Ring Road is already subject to very dense traffic. Suppose each of the 777 houses has two cars, this means that approximately 1,500 extra cars will be on the roundabout and on the local roads every day, causing even more havoc to the current traffic situation. I am pleased to see that a school is in the planning proposals as the current schools cannot cope with the extra children that will require an education, but I do not feel that the current secondary school provision is sufficient for all these houses – Horsforth School is full to capacity as are the schools in Pudsey and Bramley. Furthermore, the provision of a GP is a stretched service in the LS18 postcode, without more doctors we cannot provide a sufficient health provision for these new residents.

Moving on to site HG1-96, my comments as above still apply; this proposal seems to me a simple extension on HG2-41.

Considering sites HG3-3 and HG3-4 together, these will have further impact on the traffic, currently the traffic along the A65 queues for miles and many people are using Layton Road as a cut-through already, causing amounts of traffic that the residential streets cannot cope with. Further stresses put on schools, the primaries in Rawdon and also Benton Park, is also something to consider. Also, I do not believe people will want to buy houses next to the Airedale plant, meaning that we could potentially have houses that are hard to sell. Site HG2-12 is also adding to these comments, and potentially damaging the wildlife in the conservation area, as nature will keep away from the 130 houses proposed for the site behind New York Lane.

Now speaking generally about all the sites, I do not feel that Horsforth and Rawdon need any more housing. Governmental plans aside, the two villages are highly regarded middle-class areas with their respective strong heritages and the construction of even more houses will most likely bring different people to the area and dispersing the respect and desirability that these areas have. Horsforth has had its 'fair share' of new housing on the Clariant site.

Also, as semi-rural areas, the open green spaces that we have shape the communities and landscapes of Horsforth and Rawdon. By building on these green fields, not only are we damaging the farming industry – the plans include building on farmland currently owned by the Billing Estate – but also the heritage and desirability of the areas. Having lived in Leeds all of my life, it seems to me that there parts of Leeds that are not receiving much new housing; there are also large patches of green land around roads such as the M1 where the council could construct new, purpose-built villages, complete with schools and services and a great number of houses for building all at once; commuters will appreciate being close (yet not too close) to the major road networks as they will not have to queue for at least 45 minutes from Horsforth into Leeds to get onto the M621 and subsequently onto the M1 or M62.

In conclusion, I feel that we are being 'let down' by the planning proposals and that, in all honesty, the proposals are not well-justified and will damage the exclusive and desirable area in which we live. Not only do the local people not want these developments, it is too much of a strain on our schools and services and a damage to our local landscape. Too much further development in Horsforth and Rawdon would force me to seriously consider leaving the area and moving 'further out' in the Ilkley direction to simply enjoy the things we used to love about Horsforth and Rawdon.

Thank you for taking the time to read my comments and I hope you will appreciate our concerns and withdraw your proposals; Leeds does not need more housing and especially the Horsforth and Rawdon areas. Custom build towns in large expanses of land on the commuter belt are a much more attractive proposal, with a smaller impact on existing residents and a greater desirability factor for the many commuters who are wanting to live in the West Yorkshire area.

Yours sincerely,

Mr T M Marston