

From:  
To: [Site Allocations Plan](#)  
Cc: [Collins, Cllr Dawn](#)  
Subject: PDE02089\_Opposition to Green Belt Development  
Date: 11 November 2015 16:37:59

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**ACORN COTTAGE, 2, RED BECK COTTAGES, HORSFORTH, LEEDS LS18  
4EQ**

02 . 11 . 15

Dear Sirs,

I write with regard to proposed development in particular at **Site HG2-41** which is a greenfield site and on which it is considered that 777 homes could be sited.

I wish to **oppose this development** in the strongest possible terms as I believe that it is not consistent with the National Planning Policy Framework or Leeds Core Strategy in which the area is deemed to be "special landscape" and the row of cottages where I live are designated "positive buildings".

The existence of greenbelt is designed to prevent urban sprawl, to prevent neighbouring towns from merging, to safeguard the countryside and to preserve the setting and special character of historic towns. I understand that policy states that "unmet housing needs should not exceed maintaining the greenbelt".

This area (Site HG2-41) which borders on the Crag Wood Conservation Area is not only prime agricultural land, but has for generations been used as a valuable outdoor leisure area for families from Horsforth, from Rodley, Bramley, Pudsey and beyond who bring children to experience perhaps their only taste of the countryside. The area is networked with well used footpaths.

- In spring, families walk to see the dense patches of bluebells growing freely, and to smell the wild garlic.
- In summer, literally thousands enjoy picking their own strawberries, raspberries and asparagus grown on the local fields.
- Throughout the year, this quality agricultural land enables local people to see hay being harvested along with grain and rape.
- Cattle and sheep may be seen in the fields.
- In fields around the main ring road roundabout children enjoy seeing horses (which every year produce delightful foals) and chickens.
- In autumn, this is the area to which families come to pick wild blackberries and collect conkers.
- At Christmas, countless families may be seen with youngsters riding new bikes and scooters on the safe, country lanes.
- The area boasts habitat to frogs, newts, deer, badgers and rabbits and both bats and barn owls roost in this site - particularly the paddock in front of Red Beck Cottages.

In the manner listed above, the health, wellbeing and education of vast numbers of local people - especially children, would be detrimentally affected should the development go ahead. More congested housing would increase pollution and cause loss of "breathing space" between Rawdon, Horsforth, Rodley & Bramley

which would virtually merge and lose their individual characters.

I am further concerned that good practice has not been followed in the consultation over this plan. I would have been unaware of its proposals had it not been for the actions of local campaigners such as RGAG. I understand that the Council has previously "consulted" on this matter in 2013, but again, I was not aware. There are also questions to be asked as to whether the total number of houses proposed by the Council is appropriate according to up to date figures.

Finally, the impact of continued building would also have a very bad effect on existing housing and I urge you to reject the planning proposal and maintain the rural nature of Site HG2-41 for the long term.

**Yours sincerely,**

*M. Susan Lynes (Ms.)*

**M Susan Lynes**

**Local Resident**