

31 St. Helens Close

Adel,

Leeds LS16 8LS

14/10/2015

Dear Sir/Madam,

Phase	Plan Ref.	SHLA A	Address	Area ha	Capacity	Type
Phase 2	HG2-18	2130	Church Lane Adel	14.9ha	58	Green field

We all know that the country needs more houses and with the rising house prices young people cannot afford to buy and are stuck in a rental market without any protection or security, the only beneficiaries being land and property developers. For this reason we have supported proposed affordable housing on brownfield sites in Adel.

On principle alone we are opposed to the development of all greenbelt and green field sites including Plan Ref HG1-74 and HG2-38 until the numerous brownfield sites across the city are developed and some effort is made to bring back into use existing long term empty properties

If developers are given the choice of building on green field, greenbelt sites which they have been (no effect controls or incentives to prevent this) or brownfield sites they will always choose the former where the developers can make the maximum amount of profit.

If green field food producing land can be easily re designated from agricultural land to building land as seems to be the case, it will only encourage farmers disillusioned by lack of government support to sell their land and give up farming.

We feel also in the interest of food security food producing land such as that on Church Lane should receive the maximum planning protection. Given that there is no longer cheap food on the world market and it is going to be a lot more expensive in the next decade due to climate change , growing populations, the fact that countries like China and India now want to buy the same food as us, and that more food producing land will be taken for housing and growing biofuels it seems silly that the type of food producing land as describe above is not regarded as a valuable asset and protected as such from developers out to maximise their profits.

As a country we already have a massive balance of payment deficit on food imports and currently only are 60% self- sufficient in food.( many people believe this could be much lower).

According to the Governments estimates on population growth and number of houses needed over the next decade thousands of square miles of land will be needed.

Although there have been campaigns to reduce obesity and food wastage recently no Government could survive food shortages or empty supermarket shelves and would ensure that food supplies were protected whatever the cost but there is going to be a serious impact on the money available and any plans to spend extra on the National Health Service. Care for the elderly and all the other services we value may not be possible

The uncomfortable part is that as the issue of food security becomes more important it seems to be totally ignored when it comes planning applications and individual submissions are treated in isolation and not part of the bigger picture. I have never heard food security mentioned at any planning meeting and I do not know the ALC and grade of the land that the developers hope to build on in Adel but you cannot grow wheat and barley on low grade farm land.

We also object to the loss of 14.9ha of country side in the heart of Adel. It improves the quality of our lives and makes Adel an attractive place to live. Playing fields can never have the emotional appeal or beauty with their level pitches, goal posts and often flood lights

In conclusion if these developments are approved the right infrastructure is not in place and can only be put in place in the very long term, In the meantime the character of the area will changed and the problems increase and not for the better.

Please acknowledge receipt of this letter. We look forward to hearing from you

Yours faithfully,

Phillip & Josephine Mathers