

LDF Publication Draft Consultation
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9th November 2015

Dear Sir/Madam

Re Planning Proposals on Green Sites

I am writing with dismay and grave concern at the planning proposals for the following sites:-

HG2-10 (1221) A65 Gill Lane
HG2-12 Fields at Woodlands Drive Rawdon
HG3-2 HG3-3 HG3-4 Fields off A65

I would ask you to please think again before these important Green sites are lost forever. Please consider Brown field sites.

The Aireborough area has already had a significant increase in housing. Doctors, dentists and schools are full to capacity. Traffic is horrific at times, frequently at a standstill.

Site HG2-10 (1221) Gill Lane borders onto an important Conservation area dating back to pre-industrialisation. It is a special area, and should be preserved. It is ancient pasture land, and is home to wildlife including bats. What happens to the flora and fauna at this and other sites?

This was a rural area which then became small mill towns. As a child and a teenager living in Yeadon the walk to my Aunt's in Guiseley was mostly across fields. It was possible to walk from Kirk Lane in Yeadon to Henshaw across the Engine Fields. Not so for this or future generations. All built up with houses now.

The mills have all closed and all but one site has been built on. That site has been left derelict and solid built mill cottages have been left to wrack and ruin. A local secondary school with swimming pool has been demolished and houses built on that site. Where was the forward planning there?

Guiseley is almost unrecognisable. It is now known locally for the 'Guiseley Gridlock,' adding to congestion and emissions. The volume of traffic in the whole area is becoming insurmountable. Much of the area resembles a car park including parts of the A65.

Over 2,000 new homes have been built in this area but without vital infrastructure. Quality of life is not as it was, and is in danger of becoming worse for future generations.

Plans to build on these Green sites are not in line with the National Planning Policy Framework or Leeds own Core Strategy. What Leeds defined as 'Strategic Green Infrastructure,' they are now planning to build on. It does not seem justified to build on these Green sites when there are Brown Field sites available. Why choose to build on Green sites, when making use of Brown Field sites would improve the city? Once built on, these Green areas will be gone forever. We are very much in danger of Guiseley, Yeadon, Rawdon and Horsforth all merging together into one big urban sprawl, with no definition between them. With Bradford also building, how soon before Leeds and Bradford are fully merged?

Where are the plans to build on Brown field sites, which would rid the city of many of its eyesores? Surely filling in Green sites anywhere should be a last resort. Is the number of houses projected based on up to date information?

Please think again. Future generations will not thank us.

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