



24th August 2018

Dear Sirs,

We are writing to object to the proposed plans for further development of green areas surrounding Clitheroe.

We wish to make the following points against the proposal for Site 13.

- Site 13 gets waterlogged whenever there is a heavy downpour, and further housing will only cause a greater run-off problem downhill into the centre of Clitheroe. The stream running through the proposed site already struggles to cope now.
- Access to the proposed site will be a real issue with additional traffic being directed onto the already struggling Pendle Road. Traffic in and around Clitheroe is these days awful. In our opinion the proposed housing plans will make what is already a dangerous Shawbridge area completely unsafe. We would request an official survey is done by the County Highways Authority to deem whether this junction, Pendle Road and Whalley Road are safe with the current level of demand and for the proposed number of new properties. One only has to stand outside of Lidl now to draw a conclusion. Any decision to increase traffic in this area should be clearly stated as the responsibility of the councillors and they should accept the consequences of going against the wishes of the objectors which on the face of it now seems to be the bulk of the town population. We would request that this study is carried out in a completely transparent process, with full public participation to debate the issues and the conclusions of the report.

- Schools are at bursting point, and one can foresee a situation whereby the children of the town will no longer be able to go to their local school but will have to be bussed to a school further afield.
- Dentists and doctors are struggling with demand, and it is already virtually impossible to get an appointment quickly.
- The proposed land is heavily used by the people of Clitheroe, as well as people visiting the area, as a public right of way runs through the site.

We do feel that there are other more suitable sites available within the Borough. We are very annoyed that Clitheroe is continually expected to bear the brunt of the housing allocation. Can we have a clear explanation as to the town plan for Clitheroe for housing versus the Borough requirement. There are enormous stretches of flat, poor quality land between Billington and Mellor on the A59 and from Samlesbury to the Northcote there are vast tracts of low quality grazing land that have had no development for 30 years except for the redevelopment of the old Mental Institutional sites. This area would be much more appropriate for the travel to work areas of Preston, Blackburn, Burnley and the motorways as the majority of the new residents are not working in Clitheroe.

It is time for this to be redressed.

With frustration we have in recent years seen one field after the other being destroyed, and whilst we fully appreciate the need for low cost housing for local first time buyers, and support that scheme, the majority of the houses going up are not helping the local population. In fact, quite the opposite. As Conservative voters we are very disappointed that a Tory led council are willing to turn a rural community into an urban one.

Yours faithfully,

A large black rectangular redaction box covers the signature area of the letter.