

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 May 2023 15:44
To: Planning
Subject: Ref: DC/23/0406 Ashington planning application

[REDACTED] I am a neighbour residing in Ashington at 16 Hillcrest Drive, Ashington. RH20 3LB

Ref: Design:

The current plan cannot be allowed to go ahead as it is at odds with HDC local plans.

The plans in their current form do not address the needs of Ashington, nor do they enable new housing to "relate" to the existing village or the local area, and crucially they must not be allowed to reduce nor impact the current trees, hedgerow and woodland of the village.

Building sites should NOT be approved until all brownfield sites have previously been developed, therefore the site in London Road proposed for a coffee/tea room should be already approved and built on (preferably with a needed shop/business first before any more residential homes are added to the village.

If any business premises or residential premises are approved for Ashington, they must have the condition imposed that all roofs must be built to incorporate rooftop solar panels so that would help negate the need for any of these solar panels to be built on greenland, farmland or countryside.

Ashington already has a sports pavilion and sports pitches - no village needs duplication/competition for these (maybe an allotment or a new play park greenspace area like the existing one adjoining the existing village Community Centre would be helpful to a new housing area, but certainly retaining green spaces and particularly trees and hedges.

As some local children are already having to go to schools outside of the village due to high numbers in Ashington School, any new housing designed to be built to the west of the Ashington Primary School must essentially be required to provide a large area for the existing school to expand in size to cope with the increased numbers, and also to be able to continue the Forest School, outdoor learning and sports requirements which they currently do.

Instead of a new sports pavilion and another sports pitch, any approval of housing to the west of Ashington's Parish Church of St. Peter and St. Paul, should include a requirement for the site owner/ builder to provide an area next to the church to enable a Church Hall and Church Car Park to be built, which will be an asset for the busy Church as well as a help to churchgoers and villagers in times when use is being made of the existing sports ground and it's car park.

I concur with a previous commenter that if any housing provision is approved, that it should incorporate the provision of a Bridleway and cycleway upgrade of FP2611 and protection of Public Rights of Way.

Any surrounding footpaths should enable access through the proposed site on to the rest of the village of Ashington.

Highway Access and Parking:

It is helpful that a two carriageway access road would be installed alongside the Parish Church for access to the site, however, each dwelling built should provide a minimum of 2 or 3 off-road parking spaces, therefore reducing the impact of on-road parking. A reduction in the number of houses allowed would enable this and the deletion of the duplicate sports pitches and duplicate pavilion would enable a smaller build site and lower number of houses and help protect surrounding countryside, trees and woodland more.

Loss of General Amenity:

There are no local doctors or dentists, and just a few village shops. Any new residential development must take into account the impact of higher numbers of residents on the village as a whole and seek to improve village life.

Other:

Water neutrality is important to be addressed as it is an ongoing environmental issue and must be addressed. This has impacted on the proposed coffee/tea shop provision in the London Road area, which would be better to be built on the east side of the existing Community Centre as that means it would be in the middle of the village once this proposed site might be built to the west of the Church and also the existing approved extra houses for Ashington's nursery site, rather than a coffee/tea shop on the 'drive through' site in London Road.

Any flood risks due to such a site being built must be addressed.

Overdevelopment:

The proposed number of houses proposed is too large for a village of this size, as previously mentioned it's impact on schoolchildren. There is already a danger for children going to and from the school in safety of access whether walking or being driven. In any such building, there must be restrictions on times of access to the site to still enable safe journeys to school.

Privacy Light and Noise:

There should be no excess of light pollution for this site and surrounding area.

Trees and Landscaping:

It is imperative to protect all existing trees, woodland and hedging. There must be a condition that no trees will be allowed to be cut down - even if this means a reduction in the number of dwellings. Conservation of trees and woodland is vital to protecting our countryside, oxygen provision and green spaces and helps to reduce the current climate emergency.

In conclusion, this site is too large for Ashington and planning should be refused.

I hope these are the information details you require from me.

Regards,

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the sender.