
From:
Sent: 24 May 2023 22:02
To: Planning Comments (HPBC)
Subject: Comment Received from Public Access

Categories:

Application Reference No. : HPK/2023/0192 Site Address: Land at Hogshaw Fairfield Buxton Derbyshire Comments by: Susan WoltonMs

From:
58 Lightwood Road
BUXTON
Corbar
Buxton
Derbyshire
SK17 7BB

Submission: Objection

Comments: I believe all the points I make are valid planning matters and are essential considerations in this matter:

1. Increased flood risk specifically in an area already identified at risk. Exceptional weather events are occurring & are predicted to increase. More than ever, we need the protection of land / trees to absorb excess water, reduce co2 & provide relief from exceptional heat events. Concreting over open land / felling trees & houses will increase run off. The River Wye does flood. This will increase likelihood; as well as very real threat to homes which have already faced flooding in recent years. The Council should not deliberately increase this risk by allowing the destruction of protective factors.
2. Quality of local river. The SPD is there to protect against excessive phosphorus levels in the Wye. House building will inevitably increase pressure and I believe levels are already of concern.
3. Destruction of vital green space and wildlife habitat. Hogshaw offers wealth of benefits: accessible green space to locals, often without gardens. Epidemic in mental ill health / covid shows the importance of green spaces within towns and role in allowing children to learn about nature; reduces car journeys as people can access space rather than be pushed into drive to get out of town etc. Fortunately, the Council proclaimed a Climate Emergency in 2019 recognising the "existential threat" pledging to: - work to mitigate the biodiversity crisis in its (the councils) actions and - ensure all (councils) decisions "consider the impact on climate change & the natural environment". Hogshaw is a rich biodiverse area and clearly a pivotal way in which HPBC can demonstrate fulfilment of its pledges.
3. Health risks of building on a former tip. Dangerous chemicals / asbestos lurk on Hogshaw. Over 40 years Nature has bailed us out and yet we now have the prospect of a developer stirring up toxic waste. Does the Council have a register of what has been dumped. Can it be sure its knowledge is comprehensive? Can it be made public?
4. Air quality. Fairfield Rd is a notorious bottle neck. It is ludicrous to add yet more pressure to this narrow corridor in / out of Buxton especially given housing developments already in progress. Increased traffic in an area where known concerns re. air quality. Some of the most economically & socially deprived residents live in HMOs on Fairfield Rd and can expect health issues to be exacerbated.

Finally, I am hopeful (inspite of Homes Eng funding of roundabout suggesting fait accompli) that the Council can demonstrate true leadership in light of the Climate Change Emergency & its commitment to not adding to this problem (and fortunately the relaxation of house building targets/review of Local Plan) and reject all development on Hogshaw. Thank you

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