
From: planningcomments@highpeak.gov.uk
Sent: 03 July 2023 17:14
To: Planning Comments (HPBC)
Subject: Comment Received from Public Access

Categories:

Application Reference No. : HPK/2023/0192 Site Address: Land at Hoghaw Fairfield Buxton Derbyshire Comments by: Graham Winter

From:

Flat 7, Marlborough Mansions
22 Marlborough Road
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Submission: Objection

Comments: I am concerned that the development ignores the downstream impacts on flood risk (not really a 'risk' as it happens every couple of years and because of climate change will happen more frequently). It is only a couple of years since the last major flood incident for the Hogshaw Brook, where multiple properties were severely flooded. Any additional surface water runoff in the area of the Nun and Hogshaw Brooks will increase the impact and frequency of future flooding events.

Any additional surface water flow may also impact the historic landfills neighbouring the development site. Further understanding and mitigation of this risk should be requested. what is in the landfills? What will be the impact of additional runoff on the waste?

In terms of environmental net gain, you should consider the impact upon the river network in addition to the wildlife areas that will be permanently lost. The river quality is at times highly impacted by sewage overflow discharges from the Buxton Sewage Treatment works. Any overflow spills from this works are an indication that the treatment works is operating with insufficient capacity and this should be addressed before any major planning application for new housing is given. Every spill into the river is an environmental pollution event and knowingly giving planning permission for this development without evidence that the sewage works can cope with the additional wastewater would be granting permission to degrade our rivers and our environment. This would be far from environmental net gain and I would suggest that planners will be culpable by their actions.

HPBC has declared a climate emergency and I would remind councillors and staff of this. Whilst I would agree the proximity to town centre has some benefit in potentially reducing car mileage to shops and workplaces, this must be weighed up be the damage caused by the loss of habitat for wildlife, the loss of green spaces for people and air quality, the degradation of the river due to wastewater spills. For those in the new development who do drive there will inevitably be increased road traffic and congestion on Lightwood road with the resultant reduction in air quality (double whammy if you lose the green space). And many will have to drive further due to the location of the only budget supermarket moving to the opposite side of town - another decision that I can't understand how it stacks up against the climate and ecological emergency!

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