

Comment

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Event Name	Darlington Local Plan 2016-2036 (Regulation 19)
Comment by	Mr Chris Bowey (1174441)
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Consultation Point	Skerningham Strategic Allocation (View)
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Question 1a	
Do you consider that the Local Plan is Legally compliant?	No
Question 1b	
Do you consider that the Local Plan sound?	No
Question 1c	
Do you consider that the Local Plan complies with the Duty to Cooperate?	No
Question 2	
Do you consider that this part of the Local Plan is unsound because it is not: (tick all that apply)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">. Positively prepared. Effective. Justified. Consistent with national policy
Question 3a	
Your Comments	

Please give details of why you consider that this part of the Local Plan is not legally compliant or unsound or fails to comply with the Duty to Cooperate.

If anything, the changes you have made to the Skerningham Garden Village make it even more unattractive. Given you couldn't get your way to put the entry road to the side of Springfield park the alternative is a huge road to run through the entire countryside from Beaumont Hill all the way past Great Burdon cutting through established wood lands and even a public footpath. In my opinion this is a grossly inappropriate way of trying to remedy the traffic problem this development was always going to face.

Since the covid restrictions the section of Barmpton lane leading to the village has had a huge increase of activity from families, dog walkers, runners all of who have enjoyed the beautiful surroundings, nature and fresh air the area has to offer. A development of this scale will have a serious adverse impact to all of this and should be avoided at all cost. With a road running right through that it will stop people wanting to use the area due to the traffic, noise and air pollution this road will inevitably bring. The fact this "road" doesn't really link to the existing road network means it wont do anything to help the already congested roads we already have in this area.

I would also like to point out that section H10.13 is vastly underrepresented and missing a huge amount of buildings of historical importance. Examples include:

Low Skerningham

Barmpton Hall

Elly Hill House (my residence which dates back to the 1700's) + other residences part of the original farm here.

Great Burdon alone is home to around 10 building with listed status.

All of these sites need including on your "archaeological evaluation report" and any developments should be sited well away from them.

The following are additional factors why i feel this development is unsound:

- . Mass increase of pollution Air, Water, Noise
- . Loss of natural soak away - i urge the council to visit Barmpton lane after heavy rain. This development will just make things much worse.
- . Loss of public walkways.
- . Loss of Barmpton village charm - new build will cause a vast miss match of styles.
- . Destruction of nature and supporting habitats. We have Deers, badgers, foxes, rabbits, numerous birds of prey just to mention a few.
- . Grossly inappropriate use of funds to move a golf course a few meters away. not to mention the centuries it will take to undo the damage to tree lines.
- . Inability to solve current traffic issues
- . Loss of green space, beautiful scenery & historic farmland.

I would also like to highlight what i believe to be a premeditated decision to approve this plan as it stands today. I make reference to a situation that occurred whereby a "victory" video was created in advance of the actual decision being made. After investigation it came to light only one video was made covering the victory reaction.

<https://www.thenorthernecho.co.uk/news/18284849.victory-video-one-produced/>

There have been other articles about the way the council are carrying on with this local plan and it gives me no confidence they are making decisions for the greater good of the Darlington public. I would urge anyone reading this to ask the local government ombudsmen to look into this council and its dealing on the local plan. they can be found here

<https://www.lgo.org.uk/>

If it's not clear from the above then for clarity me and my family strongly oppose this development

Question 4

Changes Sought

Please Note your representation should cover succinctly all the information, evidence and supporting information necessary to support/justify the representation and the suggested change, as there will not normally be a subsequent opportunity to make further representations based on the original representation at publication stage. There is the opportunity to attach Word or PDF files before submitting your comment.

After this stage, further submissions will only be at the request of the Inspector, based on the matters and issues identified for examination.

Please set out what change(s) to the Local Plan you consider necessary to make it legally compliant or sound. You will need to say why this change will make the Plan legally compliant or sound. It will be helpful if you are able to put forward your suggested revised wording for any policy or text.

- . Rethink the Skerningham development. Either remove it completely or reduce the housing numbers down significantly (by at least 90% would be my recommendation)
- . Put more time into fixing the parts of town which are run down. Renovate, demolish, rebuild. Give the town centre a fighting chance of survival.
- . Think about the UK commitment to fighting climate change for example reducing the amount of car usage. Placing a development on the outskirts of town will not help and promote more car use if anything.
- . Listen to the people paying your salaries. In the draft plan this development had the highest number of objections yet nothing has really changed.
- . Fix existing problems rather than ignoring and only adding to them. (i.e. traffic on whinfield road)

Question 5

Attendance at Examination Hearings

If your representation is seeking a change, do you consider it necessary to participate in the examination hearings? Yes, I wish to participate at the examination hearings

Question 5a

Participation at Examination Hearings

Please note the inspector will determine the most appropriate procedure to adopt to hear those who have indicated that they wish to participate at the examination hearings.

If you wish to participate at the examination hearings, please outline why you consider it to be necessary?

i am happy to state my views in person or otherwise

Question 6

Do you request to be notified that the Local Plan has been submitted to the Secretary of State for independent examination under section 22(3) of the regulations and to be notified of the adoption of the Local Plan? Yes, I request to be notified