

## Comment

**Consultee** Mrs Rachel Swain (1249930)

**Email Address** [REDACTED]

**Company / Organisation** Walworth Castle Hotel

**Address** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Event Name** Darlington Local Plan 2016-2036 (Regulation 19)

**Comment by** Walworth Castle Hotel (Mrs Rachel Swain - 1249930)

**Comment ID** DBLPPS2

**Response Date** 10/08/20 09:53

**Consultation Point** Site 403 - Blackwell Grange East ([View](#))

**Status** Processed

**Submission Type** Email

**Version** 0.3

**Question 1b**

**Do you consider that the Local Plan sound?** No

### Question 2

**Do you consider that this part of the Local Plan is unsound because it is not: (tick all that apply)**

Effective

Justified

### 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.**

Blackwell historic parkland dates back to the 18th century and has many beautiful trees, wildlife and green space. With the devastation that happened across the road, in what is now 'The Willows', Storey homes development, many mature trees were felled to make way for this new housing, I believe that green spaces should be kept available for people to enjoy for generations to come. Once houses have been built on this beautiful parkland, this is a decision which can never be reversed. Blackwell Grange Hotel is a listed building and I think that the whole parkland should be protected and highlighted as a beacon in Darlington. It has so much natural wildlife, it should be celebrated and not destroyed.

I have been in business in Darlington for 20 years, and one of the main attractions to this part of the North East, was the amount of green space it had and the general feel of the town. I think that this is something we should be protecting. By building more and more housing detracts from this. I am very passionate about Darlington and having a hotel I am very keen on attracting people to the area and I am always letting tourists know how amazing our town is and that they should visit, and spend their money helping local people and our local community. I would be very disappointed if this area of the towns local plan is given approval.

I own a grade one listed building and I think historical areas, like the parkland should be protected. The focus should be protecting areas like this for future generations to enjoy. I know many people who use this area for social reasons, and get great pleasure in viewing the trees which have stood there for years, walking on the parkland and admiring the landscape and I for one feel lucky to have a space like this on our doorstep. Building houses goes against the governments initialitve to have a greener environment. We are often told by the government that we should cut down on the amount of CO2 we are generating and this plan goes directly against this, and in actual fact would increase the amount of CO2 produced.

I sincerely hope that the historical parkland can be saved.

#### 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.**

I think this should be removed from the local plan altogether and the historic parkland should be protected.

#### Question 5

##### Attendance at Examination Hearings

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

No, I do not wish to participate at the examination hearings

#### 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