

Matter 6/1.5 Kirk Hallam

Colin and Joan Polak



16<sup>th</sup> November 2023

**STATEMENT – For objection to the proposed housing development in South-west of Kirk Hallam**

We object to the proposed housing development of 1300 houses on the Green Belt, South-west of Kirk Hallam for several reasons.

Apparently EBC undertook a Sustainability Appraisal on the Spatial Growth Strategy to confirm which areas of the Borough represented the most suitable for housing growth.

Following the exercise to determine the suitability of several sites, they were then assessed for sustainability.

Looking at their core strategy regarding reasons for turning down other sites, we were surprised to see some of them are the exact reasons put forward for not building South-west of Kirk Hallam. So why was the Kirk Hallam site not rejected?

**Some of the reasons used for rejection of other sites by EBC... are as follows.**

- 1) Development here would encroach into the open countryside, contrary to the purposes of the Green Belt. As a result, this site was rejected. —**  
By this reasoning Kirk Hallam should have been rejected!!!
  
- 2) Development of this site was assessed as harming the historic setting of the adjacent Conservation Area.** This proposed site is in the historic parish of Dale Abbey, which contains the Hermits cave and the Abbey ruins, the path from Dale Abbey goes through the proposed site to Kirk Hallam Church, which was used by the monks from the Abbey, in fact, the first Vicar of All Saints Church in the Parish of Kirk Hallam was Simon de Radford in 1298, a monk from Dale Abbey. so please don't take any more of this sacred path from us. It is a wonderful experience to know you are walking on an historic path used for hundreds of years by people

from far and wide, and hopefully will be enjoyed for many more years to come.

**3) Development here could not be progressed until major upgrading works to the A38/A61 Little Eaton junction are complete, therefore it is not considered achievable** – What about our road structures, Kirk Hallam has a serious bottle neck at the small roundabout for traffic coming from Kirk Hallam via Little Hallam Hill or coming from Kirk Hallam via Quarry Hill, it's almost impossible to know if you will get to an appointment on time, you have to make sure you give yourself lots of time, at certain times a 10 minute journey could take an hour. Add traffic lights to the equation and you have no chance of getting anywhere either way, The Kirk Hallam relief road is a joke, it's a road to nowhere, it will be used for HGV's day and night, polluting our lovely Green Belt and our lungs, I thought Erewash B.C. has gone green, so why tarmac over our lovely green fields which will ultimately cause flooding at the bottom of the hill. The road will cause more congestion at our little roundabout because even more traffic from the direction of Stanton will turn right towards Little Hallam Lane, it would be far more sensible to have an access and exit road on the M1 which is literally on the doorstep of Stanton Park.

We have lived on the edge of the proposed site for 55+ years, where, thanks to the previous owner of the land, 'farmer, Lionel Fryer' have enjoyed visiting Steam Galas and Ploughing matches and watched the art of hedge laying. The destruction of the hedge rows on this site will be a great loss, as they provide shelter, habitat and food to many animals and birds, they are also a source for carbon storage to help combat climate change. We also used to enjoy watching Lionel gather the hay with the help of the local lads, the fields are needed to carry on growing crops, as they have done for years!! We need to think about digging for Victory again as they did in World War 2 to overcome our homegrown food shortage at this present time!!

We do not have much in Kirk Hallam. but we do have the beautiful Green Belt walks which helps to improve our mental and physical health, but if the development goes ahead, it will be a big loss to the wellbeing of its inhabitants.

We can't get an appointment at the doctors or dentists now, so adding hundreds more people to this area doesn't bear thinking about, as it will be far too stressful and overwhelming to everyone.