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Please send your comments to: The Parish Clerk liking Parish Council, Town Hall, liking LS29 To Arive No later than Mar 26th 2014

RESPONSES TO THE BRADFORD DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN ILKLEY SECTION

I consider that the proposal to build 800 additional houses in Ilkley is unsound for the following reasons:

It attracts that number partly because it has been designated a "principal town". However its population is less than 3% of the Bradford District total. It is not an employment centre for Bradford, it is a commuter town for Leeds. Houses built in Ilkley will almost certainly be bought by people working in Leeds adding many vehicles to an already congested A65.

Most of the 800 new houses would be built on Green Belt, even though the Strategy sets out positive measures for minimising Green Belt releases.

. The gateway to Ilkley on both sides of the town is particularly scenic green belt. Both areas bave been identified as possible housing sites. This would seriously undermine Ilkley's attractiveness as a major tourist attraction.. 800 additional houses would detract from this. The A65 at peak times is very congested with long queues getting in, through and out of Ilkley. More vehicles would make this congestion even worse. Parking in ilkley during the day is already very pressured and the residential streets are clogged up during the day with commuter cars using the station. 800 more households would make this situation worse.

. There has been no assessment of local need in Ilkley. There is a need for more housing elsewhere in the district particularly in Keighley and Bradford. Both of these areas are in need of rejuvenation. These areas have employment. Iikley does not need to become a bigger commuter town putting more pressure on the local transport infrastructure.

.There has been "windfail" of 500 new homes in the last 10 years. Ilkley has already built more houses than the educational, medical, transport and parking facilities can sustain. An additional 800 houses are proposed without any obvious planning to ease any of these shortages.

The run off of water from Ilkley Moor is already a problem in times of heavy rain. There is a particular problem with drainage in Ben Rhydding which has partly been addressed. More housing would put further strain on the situation. Further building on a large scale will make this problem worse for Ilkley and have consequences further down the River Wharfe



