

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 05 December 2015 13:09
To: Planning Policy
Subject: Core Strategy

Further to my earlier submission, here are a few other points that I wish to make:

1. School places are inadequate for the village of Menston. The document is inaccurate, in that Menston is outside the Ilkley Grammar School catchment area and even with the recent changes and proposals to extend the school, it is not (as far as I am aware) going to extend its catchment to include Menston. Further the other schools mentioned – one is a religious based school (St Marys) and the other (Guiseley school) is nearing capacity due to local developments that have taken place in its catchment area.
2. There is congestion already on the A65 in to Leeds. The A6038 to Bradford is little better, with queues in the morning extending back up Hollings Hill towards Guiseley. The strategy does not address this important issue. By ignoring the issue, it will not be resolved, it will just get worse and adversely impact economic activity. I am aware that this issue has been raised numerous times, but has not been addressed in the new document.
3. There is a train service from Menston to Ilkley (where there is little employment), to Bradford and to Leeds. According to surveys, the main employment centre for the village is Leeds. The train services are inadequate now, so any increase in population would put further strain on this service. No resolution is proposed and extra carriages requested have not proved feasible apparently. So not only is the road infrastructure inadequate now, but so is the alternative rail service.
4. The parking situation at the station is inadequate, causing dangerous situations at many road junctions in the village and inconvenience for residents. Residents of other settlements regularly travel to the village, parking on local roads and adding to the pressure on the rail services and the village. Extra houses would simply exacerbate the situation.
5. Drainage in the village is an issue and has been for a considerable time. This is a fundamental issue with the geology of the village and not one that will be easily or cheaply addressed. This is a serious issue that can only get worse with the planning proposals and yet the Council seems to want to ignore this issue rather than address it.
6. Housing should be near to employment to make it sustainable. Menston residents are required to commute to their work. By approving more houses in the village, it will make this matter significantly worse and disadvantage any lower paid residents. They simply will not be able to afford the commute.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED] Cordingley

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