



rates for Ilkley residents. It would  
also mean lower paid workers  
travelling from Ilkley to Bradford, which  
is where the jobs are. Ilkley cannot  
offer adequate education and health  
care for such a growth in population  
with its present infrastructure and we  
can see only negative results from its  
implementation.

Your Name (Capitals) [REDACTED] SUZUKI  
Address [REDACTED]  
ILKLEY  
Postcode LS29 [REDACTED]

Please post your comments to : The Parish Clerk  
Ilkley Parish Council, Town Hall, Ilkley LS29  
No later than Feb.28th 2014

RECEIVED  
15 FEB 2014



Ilkley  
LS29  
10 Feb. 14

To the Parish Clerk  
Ilkley Town Hall

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am appalled at the Bradford local plan for urban development in Wharfedale and in particular, the plan to build 800 houses in Ilkley.

Ilkley's charm is its size. Making a small town in a rural setting bigger certainly does not make it better. I do not think we have the infrastructure to deal with such an increase in the population. Schools are already stretched to full capacity and our health care would be compromised. Further residential development would mean the existing seasonal problems of traffic jams and parking would become permanent, thus spoiling the attraction of the town for both residents and tourists, and making the increased volume of traffic from summer visitors intolerable. As for Ilkley residents, train commuters to Leeds and Bradford would suffer at peak times even more than they already do because Wharfedale cannot offer jobs for such an increased population.

Do we really want to have to more houses blotting the landscape? Or have to replace our distinctive buildings, e.g. entertainment venues / recreational facilities to accommodate more people? Our services are already stretched but not to the extent that they discourage tourists, who contribute so much to the town. 800 more dwellings would surely have a negative influence on tourism, which is a valuable source of revenue for the town.

I think it would ruin the ambience of the town and put an unacceptable strain on its infrastructure. Ilkley offers wonderful recreation possibilities in a rural setting and attracts many visitors all year round, especially in summer. They come for the spectacular views, fresh air and open spaces on the moors and near the river, so it does not make sense to fill these spaces with more dwellings and all that they would entail: more roads, more parking spaces (all of which mean more tarmac) more schools, and maybe, heaven forbid, another superstore.

Flooding is a very real threat in Ilkley and further urbanisation would increase this threat. After seeing the devastation caused by flooding this year, I think we need all the green spaces we have and cannot afford to put down more tarmac or concrete. There are plenty of brown sites in cities nearby which would benefit from repopulation, where new housing would rejuvenate derelict areas without encroaching on green sites, which, once lost, are lost forever. Their proximity to cities and workplaces eliminates the need for more roads and puts less strain on the infrastructure.

I appeal to you not to spoil this town, which is a haven for both residents and tourists alike, and to rethink your plan.

Yours sincerely



Suzuki