

[REDACTED]  
*Ilkley*  
*West Yorkshire*  
*LS29* [REDACTED]  
*Tel:* [REDACTED]

Mr Tony Reeves  
The Chairman of Bradford MDC  
City Hall  
Bradford.

E-Mail [CEO.Admin@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:CEO.Admin@bradford.gov.uk)

25 March 2014

Dear Sir,

### **Development of Ilkley**

I understand that the Council is considering the development of Ilkley and Ben Rhydding by the erection of 800 houses and am horrified by this for the following reasons.

1. Ilkley is one of the most attractive residential areas within Bradford and indeed in the north of England and in consequence provides a residential attraction to persons wishing to work in the Bradford area thereby encouraging business development of the city. This is evidenced by the fact that the Tour de France has chosen to go through Ilkley.
2. The beauty of the town, its river, moor and valley has attracted the description as "the Gateway to the Yorkshire Dales"
3. It has one of the best sporting facilities in the UK in that it has 3 golf courses, one of the best tennis clubs in England with 5 indoor courts, some 14 lawn tennis courts, 6 electrically lit hard courts, a substantial gym and training facilities, 3 cricket clubs, substantial hockey facilities, 2 bowling greens, one rugby club with new stand and training facilities and one football club plus one of the fastest growing cycling clubs in the country. All of these clubs are fully supported, attract residents from elsewhere and could not accommodate the residents of 800 additional houses.

4. Most of the families of the town have 2 cars. The new houses would produce at least 1000 cars and the existing roads and highways which are now over used and regularly jammed up which will in turn be aggravated by the potential Tesco supermarket approved by Bradford Council despite serious opposition by residents which will in turn render the town a permanent traffic jam. This will have the effect of discouraging visitors to the town with adverse effects upon the shops, restaurants and other businesses who will in turn find difficulty in paying their rates to the Council .

5. Parking within the town will become virtually impossible. I invite your reader of this letter to inspect New Brook Street from the traffic lights over the bridge to Middleton Avenue which is fully parked on both sides, and impossible for 2 wide vehicles to pass, the main car park which is fully parked plus also the town centre parking spaces and it will be apparent that the town is already fully parked. Perhaps this problem might have been lessened if the Council had restricted the use of the present Tesco site to car parking.

6 . Schools in Ilkley are over full as a result of which the Council allocates a Keighley school to Ilkley residents for teenage students. Ilkley GS has an excellent reputation and is convenient Any additional houses will result in even more children having to spend travelling time to Keighley and attend a school which may not be as good.

7. Through roads in Ilkley are already inadequate for their purpose and cause numerous traffic jams particularly at weekends.

I urge you to consider all these factors and reject the proposals

Yours faithfully

 Cawthra