



**AGALA029 Netherbarns planning proposal**

**Abbotsford**

I wish to raise an objection to the proposed Netherbarns housing development.

During the year my husband and myself have made great use of the walking paths which Abbotsford provides, particularly during lockdown periods when they have provided a safe and accessible area for regular exercise. This activity not only enhances physical well-being but the sense of tranquillity and closeness with nature has greatly enhanced the mental well-being of the walkers, dog walkers and parents with children who make excellent use of this asset.

I believe that the proposed housing development can only have a negative impact on this. Planting a thin screening of trees which will take many years to mature will not be adequate to disguise the building process and the finished housing, especially during winter months.

Abbotsford is a cultural, historical and economic asset to the Scottish Borders, particularly the Galashiels/Melrose area and in the year which will see the opening of the Tapestry building and hopefully increased tourism, anything which would damage the experience and deter visitors from visiting Abbotsford does not make economic sense.

**Road concerns**

I also have concerns about the pressure on the road network that additional housing in this location would create. Kingsknowes roundabout is frequently a bottleneck for traffic, particularly at peak times. Any additional traffic would increase pressure and greatly delay travellers coming to and from Selkirk, Melrose and Galashiels.

I hope you will give these objections due consideration.

Yours sincerely



Lorna Peggie