



Forward Planning,  
Council Headquarters,  
Newtown St Boswells,  
Scottish Borders  
TD6 0SA

10<sup>th</sup> January 2021

To whom it may concern

AGALA029 Netherbarns

I am writing to object to the inclusion of the Netherbarns housing proposal for 45 houses in the Local Development Plan.

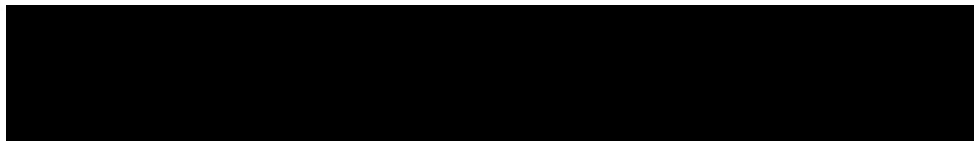
I write as a lifelong resident of the Scottish Borders with close connections to Abbotsford partly as a distant relative of Sir Walter Scott but more particularly as a Trustee of The Abbotsford Trust from 2010 to 2018 for part of which time I was Chairman of the Fundraising Committee.

Since the formation of the Trust in 2007, its sole objective has been to save the House as well as the Gardens and Grounds with its magnificent view of the River Tweed for the benefit of the local community as well as to attract visitors from far and wide as part of the efforts to increase tourism to the Scottish Borders. I believe that the Netherbarns proposal would severely compromise the Trust's commitment to preserve Scott's legacy – and in a year when the whole world will be celebrating the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his birth.

Although I am no longer a Trustee but, as a landowner with considerable knowledge of forestry matters, I would like to particularly reinforce the Trust's concerns that many of the mature trees that may act currently as some protection of the view to the development site, are of an age and fragility which will require felling or will be blown down well before the proposed screening will become effective.

Above all, I would regard the housing development proposal as having a disastrous effect on so much of what has been achieved at Abbotsford over the past 13 years – not least because of the help and encouragement given by both the Scottish Government and the Scottish Borders Council – to such great effect.

Yours faithfully,



**P.J.Scott Plummer**