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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 14 January 2021 16:15
To: localplan
Subject: Objection to AGALA029 Netherbarns - proposed housing development site

CAUTION: External Email

To whom it may concern,

Although I am not a resident of the Borders Region, as a resident of Edinburgh who visits the Abbotsford Area regularly both to visit Scott's House but also to make use of the abundant Footpaths and Forest Walks in the area. I wish to object strongly to the development of the Netherbarns site. I can only support the objections raised by the Abbotsford Trust who rightly say that the associated light, sound and visual intrusions will impact adversely on its unique heritage assets, historic setting and the cultural landscape of the Scottish Borders and Tweed Valley. This impact will reduce the enjoyment of visitors to Abbotsford and reduce the huge economic contribution which Abbotsford makes to the region. It has been argued that because Abbotsford House is not open during the winter, the proposed development will not intrude on visitors enjoyment of the area. This is mistaken. The Forest Walks and footpaths are open all the year round and, indeed, in non-Covid times, I visit the area frequently during the winter months and when I come I spend money on food and drink at least. A Councillor at the meeting approving the proposed Plan pooh-poohed suggestions that people would be deterred from visiting the area. I can tell that Councillor that I for one will be less likely to visit. We ought not to be building on open green space. I have not seen a case for building houses on that site – what evidence is there that there is a need for forty-five houses in that location? To allow building on the Netherbarns site is simply an act of vandalism.

Daniel Lamont

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