

Forward Planning,
Council H.Q.,
Newtown St Boswells
Scottish Borders
TD6 OSA


15th January 2021

Dear Sir,

OBJECTION TO PROPOSED PLAN AGALA029 NETHERBARNES

I am writing to express my strong objection to the proposal to allow a housing development just across the river from Abbotsford House. This house, with the story it tells of the writer Sir Walter Scott, is a major tourist attraction which should be protected and cherished.

Walter Scott is one of Scotland's most famous writers. He was arguably one of the most widely known writers of the early 19th century, famous not only in Britain but also across Europe for his poetry and romantic fiction, his biography of Napoleon and many other works. His writings did much to create the romantic vision of Scotland which still inspires popular culture to this day. The house that he built at Abbotsford in Scottish baronial style, set in woodlands which he carefully planned and developed, was another expression of that romantic vision.

The idea that a modern housing scheme should be developed within this setting is, frankly, appalling. I know there is a demand for more housing – but this is not the place!

Yours sincerely,


Hazel Woodsell
Member of Abbotsford House Trust