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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 19 January 2021 15:10  
**To:** localplan  
**Subject:** Objection to the AGALA 029 Netherbarns Building Proposal

CAUTION: External Email

Dear Sirs

I should like to record an objection to the **AGALA029 Netherbarns Building Proposal** as set out in the Local Development Plan.

Abbotsford House is one of Scotland's greatest treasures. The connection to Sir Walter Scott, the house and contents, together with its stunning setting make it a successful tourist attraction, so giving employment within the Borders.

It is important to recognise that residing, as it does, beside the Tweed in outstanding unspoiled countryside, Abbotsford's setting is a major contributor to the overall value of 'Brand Abbotsford'.

The proposal to build homes on the Netherbarns site will spoil the setting, and therefore tarnish 'the brand' and so be detrimental to the Abbotsford 'business'.

I understand that there is a belief that by planting more trees between the proposed housing and the Tweed, it will create a complete screen and therefore not spoil the setting. This is a mistake because Abbotsford and its grounds are in use, in various ways, all the year round. The proposed housing (and its lights) would thus be visible for much of the year. If, however the screen were to be of such density as to hide the housing and its 'services', it would spoil the attractive landscape which has always faced Abbotsford from across the Tweed.

I understand that in the past similar proposals to build homes at the same Netherbarns site were rejected. I do not understand why conditions have now changed so much as to merit a change in policy. The statistics provided by your study indicate that the local population is only forecast to grow by an insignificant amount.

Abbotsford is a wonderful historic house in a beautiful setting, one that as a descendant of Sir Walter Scott, my family and I have visited on several occasions - and recommended to friends from home and abroad. If the Netherbarns Building Proposal is allowed to go ahead it will be an irreversible degradation to Abbotsford's unique appeal. When a tourist business such as Abbotsford exists, as it does, for cultural and historic reasons I would point out that the aesthetic and commercial elements are inextricably conjoined.

So, may I ask you please to reject this proposal.

Yours sincerely

Amanda Kay

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

