

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 22 January 2021 00:05
To: localplan
Subject: Proposed Development: AGALA029 Netherbarns

CAUTION: External Email

To: Forward Planning, Council Headquarters, Newtown St. Boswells.

I am writing to put in a very strong objection to the proposed development AGALA029 of 45 houses at Netherbarns. The proposed site for these houses is directly opposite Abbotsford, the home of Sir Walter Scott, which stands on the beautiful River Tweed. Before Sir Walter Scott built Abbotsford, he purchased a small farmhouse on the site together with the surrounding land, because he had fallen in love with the Borders, but especially with the surroundings of that small farmhouse. That farmhouse eventually became too small for Sir Walter's growing family, so it was demolished and replaced by the building we know today as Abbotsford: Sir Walter's 'Conundrum Castle',

Today, Abbotsford is a huge tourist attraction, bringing much needed business into the area, year round. It is a place of beauty and great historic interest, attracting many visitors, both locally and from across the world. They enjoy not only the peace, the tranquillity and the flora and fauna that the gardens and estate offer, but also the views across the beautiful River Tweed. If the proposal for the Netherbarns site is granted, the development would always be visible from Abbotsford, no matter the time of year, or time of day. I understand the developer would plant a thin line of trees along the front of the development, but these will never conceal it. There will always be lines of sight to the development, and the historic rural views from Abbotsford across the Tweed will be lost forever.

This year, 2021, is the 250th anniversary of Sir Walter's birth, and there are many events and activities planned in celebration of this. It would be so very, very sad if this is also the year that planning permission is granted for the development at the Netherbarns site. Abbotsford would be sub-urbanised forever, with the associated light, sound and visual intrusions from the development, impacting adversely on Abbotsford's unique heritage assets and historic setting, and also on visitors' level of enjoyment. I am saying an emphatic NO to this proposed development.

,
Sylvia Grundy
[REDACTED]