

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 24 January 2021 21:31
To: localplan
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Proposed Housing Development at Netherbarns

CAUTION: External Email

From Stephen Dean, [REDACTED]

Dear Sir

I write to object to proposal AGALA029 Nertherbarns in the Local Development plan because of the severe impact 45 houses could have on the setting of historic Abbotsford House.

The Abbotsford Trust has made heroic efforts in recent years, improved facilities and greatly increased the number of visitors, much to the benefit of the economy and cultural life of the region.

As has been pointed out, the existing screen of deciduous trees on the bank above the river will be largely ineffective in the winter months. In addition, very mature trees are subject to disease and windthrow. Gaps will inevitably appear. The developers admit that their proposed additional thin screen will take years to become effective. At dusk, light pollution could be intrusive.

Abbotsford is not just a summer attraction. Before Covid, the visitor centre was open all year round with December events in the house - from which there are magnificent views across the Tweed towards the proposed development site. Much work has been undertaken to open up the paths on the estate, which have become increasingly popular all year-round and from which views of this unsightly and inappropriate development are likely.

Sir Walter Scott chose to settle at Abbotsford because of its beautiful location, which he sought to enhance not only by the construction of his romantic house and gardens but throughout the wider estate. A beautiful landscape was of very great importance to him. It would be a great pity if this wonderful historic setting was unnecessarily despoiled.

Yours truly,

Stephen Dean