

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 22 January 2021 10:20
To: localplan
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: AGALA029 Netherbarns Project Objection

CAUTION: External Email

To The Council;

Please disapprove AGALA029 Netherbarns Project as presented. It disregards the impact that the proposed 45 new homes will have on your remarkably lovely Abbotsford. I am a member of the Dandie Dinmont Terrier Club of America. We look forward to attending the 2021-2022 International celebration of Dandie Dinmont Terriers at the site where Sir Walter Scott wrote *Guy Mannering* and created the character Dandie Dinmont, our breed's namesake. It is unfortunate that this lovely site faces upheaval during such a celebratory period in its history.

If the proposed 45 houses are built across from Abbotsford, the historic view of the Tweed will be lost when visitors come at twilight and are distracted by the homes' lights. The very character of this historic site will be altered irreparably with a corresponding decrease in cultural and economic value expected. The Abbotsford Trust in 2019 adopted a strategic plan which included the goal of improving the lives in their region by creating opportunities to positively affect direct and indirect employment, skills and employability, mental health, social isolation, learning and sense of identity. This goal is dependent on achieving a number of long-term sub-goals which include safeguarding Scott's landscape, improving the visitor experience, and increasing visits year round. The development of the Netherbarns site will be hinder achievement of these sub-goals and therefore negatively impact the general population. The local economy will also be harmed if Abbotsford's aesthetic value is diminished. Abbotsford grounds and buildings are a cultural and economic gem in the area. Abbotsford welcomed over 160,000 paying visitors from July 2014 – 2019. A sustained annual increase in visits of 82% (prior to Covid-19), contributing a total £7.4m to the local economy. This increase sustained 148 jobs and generated 35 new jobs at Abbotsford. Maintaining these jobs and any future growth is at risk if the houses are built.

I humbly request your consideration of this and others' objections to AGALA029 Netherbarns Project.

Respectfully submitted,

Caroline Utz
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]