

**Archived:** 26 January 2021 09:58:54

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Sun, 24 Jan 2021 14:25:08 +0000ARC

**To:**

**Subject:** AGALA029Netherbarns

**Sensitivity:** Normal

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**CAUTION:** External Email

Dear Sir / Madam,

I am writing to state my objections to the proposed development AGALA029 Netherbarns.

My objections are based on the following grounds:

The view from Abbotsford is part of Scott's vision for the estate and continues to be enjoyed by the local community and visitors from across the globe. While the plan states that a line of trees will screen the development from Abbotsford this is not sufficient and the development will be clearly seen from the house and grounds; in particular it will be visible from the room where Scott died and where visitors pause to see the iconic scene that he wished to view in his last days. It is also based on the statement that the house is not open to visitors in the winter. This is not the case; this Christmas the house was open and provided a valuable attraction for local families in difficult times. Given the success of this year's events it is likely that the house will be open at Christmas in future, and indeed this will be essential to its economic recovery post-Covid.

Moreover, in accordance with Scott's wishes that his estate should be enjoyed by all, the Abbotsford walks and play areas are open all year round free of charge and are much loved by the local community; people frequently tell me how much they love walking on the Abbotsford estate. It is inappropriate to destroy this much-loved view and to do so in Scott's 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary year when the world will be looking towards Abbotsford seems particularly insensitive.

Abbotsford also brings significant revenue to the local economy in the way of jobs and tourism. Its importance to the Borders and Scotland in this respect is acknowledged. I would urge that this is not undermined by a development that will detract from its attraction to visitors and which is totally at odds with Scott's vision for the estate. Those involved in literary heritage related to other writers are in the process of purchasing and restoring properties related to their legacies (Burns's Ellisland home for example). The Borders is fortunate in that Abbotsford has long been available for tourists and locals to visit and enjoy under the stewardship of Scott's family and now the Abbotsford Trust. It would be unfortunate to develop housing in a way that will detract from this world-class site of literary heritage.

My home contact details are:

[REDACTED]

Yours faithfully,  
Alison Lumsden

[REDACTED]



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