

Response ID ANON-VDDE-RA3K-M

Submitted to **Proposed Scottish Borders Local Development Plan**

Submitted on **2021-01-25 11:26:07**

About you

Are you responding as an: individual, group / organisation, agent?

Individual

Individual

What is your name?

Individual name:

Alison Thurgood (Mrs.)

What is your email address?

Individual Email:

What is your address?

Address line 1:

Address line 2 :

Address line 3:

Town / city:

Postcode:

What is your contact telephone number?

Contact number:

Proposed Local Development Plan Menu

Where would you like to go?

Quick Comment / Supporting Information

Quick Comment / Supporting Information

Leave a quick comment about the Proposed Scottish Borders Local Development Plan, or planning and development in general.....

Quick Comment:

Objection AGALA029 Netherbarns

Dear Sir/Madam,

I was surprised and horrified to be informed of the proposed development of a 45 unit housing estate on land directly opposite Abbotsford home of the world famous Scottish author Sir Walter Scot.

It is an area of outstanding beauty – tranquil, peaceful and calming with the river flowing through countryside unspoiled by hideous modern developments with their formulaic, uninspiring designs - a crassness in this restful, healing place, especially when considering the effects of the recent Covid-19 virus outbreak. This is the time when people need such places away from the brutal reality of everyday life, where beauty and certain spirituality can be found in the wonders of nature. Here Sir Walter found the space and peace to write, where he created his home in gardens to celebrate the love of his homeland and which the proposed development seeks to destroy.

As one of the thousands of tourists who visit the area I feel it is almost a sacrilege to deface it in such a way with light pollution, noise and the sheer visual impact which such a large scale development will irrevocably deface. I find it unbelievable – until I think of the commercial gain for the parties involved.

The first time I went to Abbotsford was by invitation of a cousin of mine, an assistant producer for The Antiques Road Show which was then being filmed. Falling in love with the place with its garden, its walks, its setting, I promptly joined The Friends. It seemed to complete a full circle as I have been an avid fan of Scott's books since I began saving up to buy the full set aged 14 years old (second hand and knocked down from £3.15.0 to £2.10.00 as I was a local convent school pupil!) and which I proudly still possess.

I cannot say anything about the legalities or the monetary arguments. My objection is more emotional, visual, historical, aesthetic – a gut-feeling for the wrongness of what is proposed. I am vigorously opposed to the size and scale of the plan and can only shudder when I think of the banality of the architecture which might be envisaged. There is enough ugliness in the world without adding to it in such a sensitive, serene location. Leave it as it is for future generations to find harmony and inspiration.

Yours faithfully, Alison Thurgood (Mrs.)

Do you wish to submit supporting information?

Submissions:

No file was uploaded

Where would you like to go now?

Submit your response to the consultation (Exit)