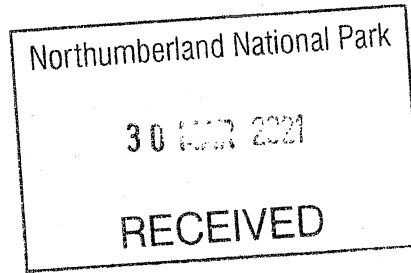


4 Gallowlaw

Alwinton

Morpeth

NE65 7BQ



F.A.O. Colin Godfrey

Planning Officer

Northumberland National Park Authority

Eastburn

South Park

Hexham

NE46 1BS

26th March 2021

Dear Sir

In regard to **Planning Application reference number 21 NP0016**, I would like to lodge my objection to this for the following reasons:-

The number of proposed houses, their design and affordability. Only four houses appear to be allocated to a field with a very large frontage towards the road. Given the distance of this field adjacent to the road, you could easily accommodate at least two terraces similar to Gallowlaw (providing 8 homes to locals). These homes would be more suited to local incomes and social housing, allowing young people to stay in the area, have children and support the local school. Reading the National Park Land Plan Adopted July 2020, I think that this would fit into your Policy DM3 where sites are capable of accommodating more than five houses, something that this site obviously is, rather than 4 gigantic houses that are not designed for the pockets of locals! If a terrace or terraces are thought in appropriate then surely proper bungalows where the apex of the roof is LESS THAN 6.7m would be better with smaller rooms, again being more affordable to locals (more than 5 or 6 bungalows could be built). Four sites would be a complete waste of the overall site opportunity. Therefore half of them would be affordable according to your plan.

The plans for the houses as they have been submitted appear wholly inappropriate for Alwinton, belonging more to the outskirts of a large town or city, not the countryside. They look ostentatious compared to other houses here and do not 'fit in' (5.2.3 of the National Park Land Plan). They are very large compared to other residences, and these houses would alter the whole character of Alwinton and its surrounding countryside, something our many visitors come to see and enjoy. They would look like they had been just transported and dumped in from another area such as Darass Hall, not the quaint housing that is the current look. This site is also on the outskirts, rather than infill and therefore stand out even more as unsuitable for the community's social and economic needs (5.5.1 of the National Park Land Plan). Will all residences built now be classed as principal residences (5.5.13 of the National Park Land Plan), as Alwinton has too many second homes and holiday cottages?

At least one of the house plans shows a chimney, in these days of environmentally friendly construction, surely these homes will be carbon neutral and have either ground pump heating, air source heating or solar energy, not fossil fuel or wood burning.

Ecologically. There is a Soprano pipistrelle maternity roost opposite the development site, and Brown long-eared bats frequent the immediate area, therefore every house should have bat roosts, and swift boxes for our summer visitors rather than just a very cheap RSPB house sparrow box. Surely the developer can afford top end wildlife mitigation to every facade of these houses, as people who live in the countryside want to see and help the wildlife.

Entrances. Only numbers 1 and 4 Gallowlaw have limited off-road parking, therefore residents and visitors park legally on the road in front of the houses as there is nowhere else to park throughout the year. Due to Covid and the public re-discovering the countryside, the road through Alwinton has become very busy all year, therefore 4 additional entrances on that short piece of road will cause disruption and possible accidents when people are try to pull out of their drives. Surely the new development could be accessed by one single entrance onto the field, as is done to the two bungalows on the pub side.

Misleading. The developer has not lived in the village since 1972, but since about 1993 (as stated in his planning statement) when the last Council House became available to rent, then he subsequently bought it.

Yours faithfully,

