

8th January 2021.

Forward Planning,  
SBC,  
Council HQ,  
Newton St. Boswells,  
Melrose,  
Roxburghshire TD6 0SA.

Dear Sirs,

Local Development Plan - Proposal AGALA 029 / Nettle Barns

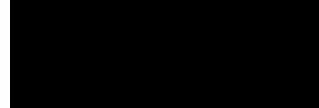
I wish to object to the proposed allocation AGALA 029 in the Local Plan for housing development at the Nettle Barns site opposite Abbotsford, on the other side of the River Tweed on the following grounds:

1. The view from Abbotsford to the other side of the River Tweed will be lost, the property being situated in a historic landscape, appreciated by locals and visitors alike. The site is highly visible in the wider landscape.
2. It would be very undesirable for the Galashiels urban area to extend any further to the south along the Tweed valley, which is not the natural valley of the town.
3. It is considered that any proposed woodland screening would not mitigate the adverse impacts of the setting of Abbotsford in the Designated landscape with screening being of a deciduous nature the effect would be totally lost in winter. The existing tree screening is mature and deteriorating.

4. The magnitude of proposed development will be far too great for it to fit into the landscape, and if to be proceeded with at all must be radically reduced, but ideally should not take place.
5. The proximity of the existing SweetBank settlement at the proposal to construct 300 houses here, would seem to be reason enough to exclude the Nettle Barns site from any development.
6. There is already too much pressure on the Central Tweed Valley area for development. New development should be much more evenly spread across the whole SBC area.
7. This proposal has previously been rejected at Local Public Inquiries over a 12-year period and would seem to be reason enough to exclude the site from the Local Development Plan.

I look forward to hearing from you,

Yours faithfully,



(IAN G. MARTINE)