

## **Statement from Sarah Tindal for the public examination relating to the Calderdale Local Development Plan**

I note that the inspector has asked the council about their duty to cooperate and referenced whether they have taken notice of their Calderdale Statement of Community Involvement (2008). I would say that they have not done this. They have not created 'genuine community involvement'. I believe this because Calderdale refused to allow the area of Thornhills in Clifton, and so the residents of that area, to be included in the Clifton Village Neighbourhood Forum. The original CVF forum application included Thornhills in the borders however Calderdale drew exception to this and rejected the application. They made it clear that the forum would not be granted status if this area was included and so the CVNF were left with no option but to exclude it in order to gain status.

As a resident of Thornhills which forms part of the Clifton village in its status of Thornhills Hamlet, I feel my voice, and that of my neighbours (many of whom are retired and elderly) have been side-lined. Yes, we have had opportunity like other residents of Calderdale to make our representations on the Local Development Plan, however, the exclusion of us from the CVNF has significantly reduced our 'capacity to influence' (quoted from the Calderdale Statement of Community Involvement 2008). I feel Calderdale have specifically excluded us from the CVNF in order to make their plans for Thornhills less troublesome.

With this in mind, I do not feel Calderdale have taken note of the obligations they set out themselves in their Calderdale Statement of Community Involvement (2008) and as such this affects the soundness of the Local Development Plan.

When the inspector does her site visit to the areas of Brighouse that form part of the LDP I would respectfully ask her to not just restrict her visits to the sites themselves but to the surrounding areas; Brighouse town centre, Hove Edge, Rastrick and Huddersfield Road as well. When travelling anywhere in the town of Brighouse and its surrounding areas and you look up you will see the greenbelt of Thornhills. This greenbelt provides the backdrop and character of the town as well as the buffer between Brighouse and Kirklees. The scale of development proposed for Brighouse is disproportionate and will completely transform (not for the better) the town as a whole which will be visible to the inspector wherever she travels and I would urge her to look up.