

Hello

I wish to object to the inclusion of the playing fields at Barrowford Road Colne in the Site Allocations for Housebuilding in the Draft Local Plan (sites P083 and P111).

The playing fields are the subject of a s106 planning agreement entered into by Nelson and Colne College when planning permission was granted for the development of the college building and adjacent land for housing. The retention of the playing fields for recreation and as open space was clearly an important material consideration in the grant of that permission.

Sadly, over the years the College has been halfhearted to the point of negativity in fulfilling its obligations in the planning agreement. Nevertheless the playing fields have continued to be well used for junior football and in fact that usage has increased significantly in the last 2-3 years. There is clearly a need and demand for the sites to continue to be used for that purpose.

Furthermore the use for housebuilding would be at odds with the Council's own recent Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy and Action Plan (page 59) and the designation in the recently approved Colne Neighbourhood Plan.

I urge the Council to remove sites P083 and P111 from its draft Local Plan.

Thank you.

Philip Mousdale

