

6 September 2011

Development Plans Manager
South Lakeland District Council
Lowther Street
Kendal
LA9 4DL.



Dear Sir

↓ Allocations – Further Consultation: Cartmel Area RN35#


I am writing to object to the proposal to use the site RN35# for housing.

This field is in open countryside 400 metres from the edge of Cartmel and is completely detached from the core of the village. It is in an area of scattered rural housing, all of which dates from around 1850. A development of new houses would look completely out of character in the middle of this open space and would be harmful to the setting.

The field is also unsuitable for housing for several other reasons:

- There is no access to a public sewer. The existing individual houses all have septic tanks. The field RN35# is currently the site of the septic tank for Cartmel Old Grammar residential care home. There is an ongoing issue with effluent from this septic tank fouling the field, due to the copious use of bleach, disinfectant and cleaning chemicals by Cartmel Old Grammar. The adjacent road and Middle Field Beck (via the road drains) have also been affected. Both SLDC and the Environment Agency have been involved for a number of years. The field has become so heavily polluted that no one will rent it for grazing any more.
- The road just outside the field, going north towards the turning to Howbarrow Farm, is prone to flooding, as it is the lowest point of all the surrounding roads. Often, only four wheel drive vehicles can get through the floods. Building housing would create additional hard surfaces and more run-off and would exacerbate the flooding.
- There is no proper access on foot into Cartmel village. The road into the village has a 60mph speed limit and there is no footpath and no street lighting. The corner by Cartmel Village Shop (Post Office Corner) is particularly hazardous both for vehicles and pedestrians, as is the narrow bridge in the centre of the village. Neither of these places could be easily widened nor a footpath provided.

Yours sincerely



Dr Meg Henderson