

Title: [REDACTED]

First Name: [REDACTED]

Surname: [REDACTED]

Is your address in Ribble Valley? [REDACTED]

Enter a postcode or street: [REDACTED]

Choose Address: [REDACTED]

Selected address: [REDACTED]

Locality:

County: Lancashire

uprn: 10093890209

usrn: 31802306

ward: E05005315

Planning Application Reference Number: 3/2021/0332

Address of Development: Clitheroe Golf Club

Your Comments: With regard to the planning application for nets at Clitheroe Golf Club (app no) we believe this proposal should not go ahead for the following reasons:

- The balls which are occasionally launched high over the wood {between the first tee and the field to the east} are potentially dangerous. However, these would not be stopped by these nets. Safety nets need to be much closer to the first tee and placed in such a way as to curb any errant balls
- These nets would have a claustrophobic effect on residents and visitors to our gardens as they are so close to the boundary fence, very high and with huge metal stanchions all the along. We feel this will resemble a prison
- More importantly the nets will severely hamper the many species of birds which use the area as an aerial corridor from the field and over the golf course. Many birds including a family of Greater Spotted Woodpeckers use the trees in the protected woods and the golf course for feeding and nesting. If necessary we have photographic evidence
- We also have a bat roost in a decaying tree and we feel the nets would have a detrimental effect on this and other habitats. Many bats can be seen at twilight close to the houses and the fairway
- We are also concerned about the effect these nets will have on a number of healthy and beautiful trees. In particular there is an aesthetically pleasing Oak tree on the direct route of the nets which would have to be substantially cropped along with others. The roots of the affected trees could also be damaged by the materials and machinery used when erecting the stanchions for the nets.

●We have concerns with regards the stability of the fragile banks of the water course as a consequence of the construction work. In particular the consequential risk of flooding in our gardens and homes.

The golf club appear to only appease their insurers by attempting to mitigate the issue of errant golf balls and safety for their own convenience. This is especially demonstrated when despite numerous requests they refuse to ask their members to shout fore on the rare occasion that errant balls land in our gardens. These same golfers loudly shout fore when another player is at risk on the fairway but do not when a child in a garden could be severely injured by their mis-hit balls. The proposed nets will not stop the dangerous balls which land in our gardens after going over the trees. The flight of these balls is clearly illustrated on the report commissioned by the golf club which again demonstrates limited effectiveness of a net in the proposed position.

We have also suggested several times and by golfers themselves that the golf club place a simple sign at the first tee advising golfers to be aware of houses on the left.

In conclusion we are very concerned that the nets will have such a negative impact on many species of birds, bats and other wildlife and habitats.

In addition, they will be so close to our houses which will have a claustrophobic effect on residents and impact our mental health.