



Do the walls need “major work”?

In the Hebden Bridge Times (3rd December) Green Tops put the cost of “repairing” the walls on the Millpond site at anything between £150,000 - £300,000.

The community wants to know exactly how either of these sums can be justified, given that the Calderdale structural engineer’s report (which Green Tops are fond of quoting) states the Windsor View wall is “in reasonable condition” and does not indicate any urgent need for significant repair work.

We believe that Green Tops is deliberately scaremongering by claiming that the walls need a great deal of work. Their offer to fund such repairs is, of course, dependent on their being given the go-ahead for their plans.

It should not be forgotten that these figures come from a company that can’t yet tell anyone how much one of their proposed 4-bedroom houses will cost.

Are we to believe that they don’t know this fairly fundamental cost, but do know how much it will cost to repair a wall?

Is Green Tops insured?

When Green Tops bought the Millpond site, they bought the liabilities that came with it. We are still calling on Green Tops to give the names of their insurers to cover their liabilities.

They have repeatedly failed to supply the community - which has been asking for many months - with this basic information.

Given the nature of the site and the previous subsidence of houses in the area this information should be made publicly available.

The longer Green Tops stay silent on this vital subject, the more reasonable it becomes to assume that they’re not insured.

Green Tops’ planning application

Green Tops’ agent, Mr. Mark Clyndes, stated in last weeks Hebden Bridge Times that he is confident that planning permission will be granted for their proposals for the Millpond.

If they are so confident why, over 12 months after seeking to buy the land, have they not fully submitted their plans to Calderdale Council?

This is particularly notable since Mr. Clyndes was also quoted as saying, “a planning application would be submitted in the next week” on 29th October (Hebden Bridge Times).

The fact that Green Tops have not submitted their plans to Calderdale Council, their incredible costs for repairing the walls, their inability to name their insurers or tell anyone how much the houses will cost leads us to suspect that they agree with us that this land is not appropriate or suitable for development.

The community’s position:

- We fully support environmentally friendly housing, but not at the expense of valuable green spaces not designated for housing, such as the Millpond site.
- The history, location, structure and topography of the site means it is unsuitable for development.
- There are genuine concerns about the stability of the surrounding houses, which have already been underpinned due to subsidence.
- There are well-founded concerns about the integrity of some of the individuals behind Green Tops Ltd.
- We do not want to see the Millpond site developed and wish to see it returned to the green space it was prior to Green Tops’ ownership.