

From: planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk <planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk>
Sent: 11 April 2026 08:37:48 UTC+01:00
To: "Hamish Evans" <hamish.evans@midsussex.gov.uk>
Subject: Mid Sussex DC - Online Register - Comments for Planning Application
DM/26/0540

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Planning Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 11/04/2026 8:37 AM.

Application Summary

Address:	5 Orchard Close Scaynes Hill Haywards Heath West Sussex RH17 7PQ
Proposal:	Change of Use from dwellinghouse (Use Class C3) to children's residential care home (Use Class C2) for up to (2/3) children. No external alterations proposed. (additional information received 30.03.2026 and 07.04.2026)
Case Officer:	Hamish Evans

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Customer Details

Address:	24 Orchard Close Scaynes hill
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Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Neighbour or general public
Stance:	Customer objects to the Planning Application
Reasons for comment:	
Comments:	I am writing to formally object to the proposed change of use of the residential property at [address] into a care facility for teenagers. While I fully support the need for appropriate accommodation for young people, the chosen location is wholly unsuitable for this purpose and raises several serious concerns for the existing community.

1. Lack of Appropriate Local Amenities for Teenagers

Scaynes Hill is a small, quiet rural village with extremely limited facilities. Our only pub has recently closed, there are no shops, no youth services, and very few community resources. There is simply nothing in the village to support the needs, wellbeing, or positive engagement of the young people who would be placed in this facility.

2. Poor Transport Links

Public transport in Scaynes Hill is minimal, with infrequent bus services and no other reliable means of travel. Teenagers in a semi-independent setting are typically allowed to come and go freely, yet the lack of transport infrastructure makes it difficult for them to access education, social opportunities, or support services. This isolation is not in their best interests and raises safeguarding concerns.

3. Increased Risk of Anti-Social Behaviour Due to Inappropriate Setting

Residents are extremely concerned that placing teenagers-who are encouraged to develop independence-in a location with no suitable activities or outlets may unintentionally lead to boredom, frustration, and resultant anti-social behaviour. This is not a criticism of the young people themselves, but a predictable outcome of placing them in an environment that cannot meet their social and developmental needs.

4. Impact on the Character of the Village

Scaynes Hill is a quiet, family-orientated community. The introduction of a high-traffic care facility within a residential area represents a significant change to the character and cohesion of the village. This includes increased staff coming and going, visits from social workers and professionals, and potential disturbances during both day and night.

5. Unsuitability of the Property and Location

The proposal would effectively place a care facility into a setting designed for single-family occupation, with no surrounding infrastructure to support it. This raises questions not only about the impact on local residents but also about whether this environment can genuinely support the needs of vulnerable young people.

In conclusion, I respectfully request that the council rejects this application on the grounds that Scaynes Hill is fundamentally unsuitable for this type of facility. The lack of amenities, poor transport links, and quiet residential character of the village mean that this proposal would not benefit the young people placed here and would have a negative impact on the existing community. Thank you for considering this objection.

Kind regards