

From: planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk <planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk>
Sent: 10 September 2025 20:55:58 UTC+01:00
To: "Stefan Galyas" <stefan.galyas@midsussex.gov.uk>
Subject: Mid Sussex DC - Online Register - Comments for Planning Application
DM/25/1185

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

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

Comments were submitted at 10/09/2025 8:55 PM.

Application Summary

Address:	Tennis Courts At St Francis Sports And Social Club Colwell Road Haywards Heath West Sussex RH16 4EZ
Proposal:	Temporary (36 months) permission for change of use of existing tennis courts to padel courts and associated works (Acoustic report received 21.08.2025)
Case Officer:	Stefan Galyas

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Customer Details

Address: 14 Park East Southdowns Park Haywards Heath

Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Neighbour or general public
Stance:	Customer objects to the Planning Application
Reasons for comment:	
Comments:	Having seen the planning application of the padel court development at the MSDC office, I don't think the implications of this application has been understood by the proposer of this venture. I've lived at Southdowns Park for more than 25 years - I was one of the first residents to move here - and appreciated its peace and quiet, and the beautiful views of the South Downs, which is why

I'm really concerned about the noise levels and the intention of having 14 hours of deafening noise seven days a week - despite the findings of the latest report submitted.

Particularly concerning is not just the impact of these padel bats hitting the sides of the court, but also the floodlights and the use of noisy equipment such as ball machines and proposed background music. The extensive noise and strong lighting will definitely affect the residents, particularly those who work varied hours and need their sleep during the day.

In addition, as a Grade 11 listed building, we are unable to have double glazing, so the noise will be even worse. I can hear the football matches played at St Francis and see the floodlights from my window - I'm on a top floor - but they are far enough away and surrounded by foliage that muffles the noise. The proposed padel courts are much closer, every noise will be amplified and it will certainly impinge on our daily lives.

Then there is the question of parking. Where do the players intend to park? The picture I saw at the Council showed the parking spaces alongside the courts, which swimmers use for the swimming pool next door, so where will either of these groups go? Do they think they can use our car park spaces? That will cause many complaints by residents if they can't use their spaces for themselves or their guests.

We also can't have the players parking on the perimeter road as it is used by emergency vehicles and the council's refuse collectors.

Another issue that this application hasn't factored in, is the effect on the Bowling Club. It's always been a pleasure to have a ringside view to watch the matches, but how can the two sports work together - one that is going to be very noisy and the other needing peace and quiet to concentrate.

Kind regards