

From: planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk <planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk>
Sent: 28 June 2026 09:06:41 UTC+01:00
To: "Caroline Grist" <caroline.grist@midsussex.gov.uk>
Subject: Mid Sussex DC - Online Register - Comments for Planning Application
DM/26/1315

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

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

Comments were submitted at 28/06/2026 9:06 AM.

Application Summary

Address:	Land West Of Gatesmead Wickham Way Haywards Heath West Sussex
Proposal:	Proposed 49 new homes together with open space and associated infrastructure.
Case Officer:	Caroline Grist

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Address:	20 Oak bank Sussex
----------	--------------------

Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Neighbour or general public
Stance:	Customer objects to the Planning Application
Reasons for comment:	
Comments:	I wish to formally object to the proposed residential development on Wickham Way. While I recognise the need for new housing, I believe this proposal is inappropriate for this location and would have significant adverse impacts on the local environment, community and infrastructure. My objections are as follows:

1. Loss of Valuable Green Space

The proposed development would result in the permanent loss of an important green field that is widely used by local residents for informal recreation, including daily dog walking, exercise and enjoying the countryside. This open land contributes greatly to the character of Lindfield and provides a valuable natural space that supports residents' health and wellbeing.

Once this land is built upon, it can never be replaced.

2. Harm to Wildlife and Biodiversity

The field provides important habitat for birds, mammals, insects and other wildlife. Hedgerows, grassland and mature vegetation form ecological corridors that support biodiversity. Development would inevitably disturb or destroy these habitats and reduce local biodiversity, contrary to the aim of protecting and enhancing the natural environment.

Any proposed mitigation cannot fully replace an established natural habitat.

3. Pressure on Local Infrastructure

Lindfield's infrastructure is already under considerable strain. Additional housing will place further pressure on:

- * Local primary and secondary schools, many of which already operate close to capacity.
- * GP surgeries and healthcare services.
- * Local roads and junctions, increasing congestion and journey times.
- * Public transport.
- * Water, drainage and other essential services.

Without substantial investment in infrastructure before development, the proposal risks reducing the quality of life for both existing and future residents.

4. Traffic and Highway Safety

The development will generate a significant increase in vehicle movements. Local roads already experience congestion during school drop-off and peak commuting periods. Increased traffic will worsen delays, increase pollution and create additional safety risks for pedestrians and cyclists.

5. Loss of Rural Character

The field forms part of the attractive landscape that defines

Lindfield's village character. Replacing open countryside with housing would erode the separation between built-up areas and diminish the rural setting that makes Lindfield such a desirable place to live.

6. Climate and Environmental Concerns

Protecting existing green spaces is increasingly important in addressing climate change. Open fields absorb rainfall, help reduce flood risk, store carbon and provide cooling during hot weather. Development would reduce these environmental benefits and increase surface water runoff.

Conclusion

For the reasons set out above, I respectfully ask the Council to refuse this application. The proposal would cause unacceptable harm through the loss of valued green space, damage to biodiversity, increased pressure on overstretched local infrastructure and schools, additional traffic, and the erosion of Lindfield's rural character.

I urge the Council to protect this important landscape for current residents, future generations and local wildlife.

Kind regards