

From: planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk <planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk>
Sent: 06 May 2025 20:55:55 UTC+01:00
To: "Joseph Swift" <joseph.swift@midsussex.gov.uk>
Subject: Mid Sussex DC - Online Register - Comments for Planning Application
DM/25/0088

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

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

Comments were submitted at 06/05/2025 8:55 PM.

Application Summary

Address:	Burgess Hill Northern Arc, Land North And North West Of Burgess Hill, Between Bedelands Nature Reserve In The East And, Goddard's Green Waste Water Treatment Works In The West
Proposal:	Reserved matters application pursuant to outline planning permission ref DM/18/5114, as amended by planning application ref DM/21/3279, for the provision of the Green Circle traversing Sub-Phases OS1.1a, P1.3, OS1.1b (Freeks Lane) and OS1.2N at the Northern Arc development (now Brookleigh) on land north and north-west of Burgess Hill. (Updated surface details and amended bridge design)
Case Officer:	Joseph Swift

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Address:	62 Freeks Lane Burgess Hill
----------	-----------------------------

Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Neighbour or general public
Stance:	Customer objects to the Planning Application
Reasons for comment:	
Comments:	The proposal to 'improve' the surface of the footpath at Freeks Lane between Maple Drive and Eastbridge Avenue is quite

simply, utterly pointless.

It simply does not need improving. The path is used by dog walkers, bicycles, parents with buggies, children walking to and from the nearby park with absolutely no problems. As it stands, it is a lovely natural footpath, perfectly fit for use. To tarmac/concrete over it would only be a gigantic waste of time, money and resources, not to mention a breach of the original planning application of the Northern Arc. The Freeks Lane footpath is a part of the nature corridor, and as such, surely needs to be left untouched. The intrusion into the homes of wildlife would also be unacceptable.

Furthermore, I understand that the current proposed 'improvements' don't include vehicular barriers at either end of the aforementioned section of footpath. This, and I cannot possibly stress this enough, is borderline insanity. My neighbours and I, as well as many surrounding residents, have been campaigning for barriers to be put in place ever since the Northern Arc building began. Eastbridge Avenue was built as the new vehicular entry point to the new development, and Freeks Lane as a road, was closed. Homes England/ Countryside originally agreed to build the barriers to stop cars/Lorries driving down the footpath, not to mention protect pedestrians. Needless to say, this was not done. Despite contacting several authorities repeatedly over the last few years, they still have not been built. Now we have supposed 'improvements' being proposed, and once again, no barriers.

Clearly I need to explain this as simply as possible to whomever is making these ridiculous decisions. What you will end up with is a footpath that cars and vans/delivery drivers will drive down as a shortcut. I know they will drive down it, because we see them try every day. The only reason they currently can't, is because several tree trunks/branches and other obstacles have been placed at the edges of the footpath to close the gap enough to stop vehicles fitting through. Before these were placed, cars were bombing down there as a shortcut, delivery vans were using it to get to the new development, and we had terrible trouble with some off-road illegal motorbikes nearly running several pedestrians over. A young child was nearly hit. There are police incident numbers available that correspond to these events. Members of the Travelling Community have also been seen lately, scouting the Lane. They have parked here in the past, and with potentially no barriers in place, they certainly would again.

To summarise, the proposed improvements to the footpath are quite frankly, ridiculous. The aesthetic appeal of the Lane would be lost, and in their current state, the plans would only encourage yet more anti-social behaviour. Furthermore, they absolutely cannot go ahead unless barriers are part of the improvements.

Kind regards