

Hamish Evans

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 14 September 2026 14:35
To: Hamish Evans
Subject: Planning application DM/26/2115

[REDACTED]
Good afternoon Hamish

I hope you are well. I have tried to submit an objection to planning application DM/26/2115 via the council portal, only to have it rejected several times with a server error. I have to say that having everything online is ok till it doesn't work, finding contact detail for the planning department on the websire is painful to say the least.

One of your colleagues has suggested I send this to you instead for consideration by the planning committee.

Could I please have confirmation that this comment is received and enacted on.

My details are as follows.

[REDACTED]
Address: 40 Carter Road, Maidenbower, Crawley, Sussex, RH107NY.
[REDACTED]

Commenter type: Member of public
Comment to plan DM/26/2115: OBJECTION.

I don't believe that 25 car parking spaces is sufficient for this development (29 if you include the disabled spaces). Padel has become a very popular sport in the UK attracting large numbers of participants on a regular basis. The statement by the developer is that they are expecting up to 24 players at a time, presumably at peak hours. In real life the vast majority of people will not be car sharing, but be one person per vehicle. If you take into account the overlap of bookings you are going to have people turning up before their booking, and people after changing and relaxing in the cafe area after, their booking, so realistically the number of people on site is more likely to be up to around 50 people plus staff at any one time. Also as far as I can see there is no provision for separate staff parking, so that is likely to involve best part of a further 4/5 vehicles.

All of this would mean that parking would need to be around double that planned, at least for the moment, to realistically cope with the number of customers for the courts. With the current plan for parking I can see people trying to use the hotel car park (this is not possible as it requires a ticket to exit issued by the hotel) and the gym car park is often full at many times of the day. In fact the gym has struggled at times with insufficient parking, and have had to find secondary parking for staff, to enable members to park. At times the gym in the past has had overflow parking with people parking up the side of the access road.

I also believe that the assumption that a significant number of people will use public transport to access the site, while laudible, is not realistic in real life terms. It has been pretty well documented in the press that Padel is a quite expensive sport to pursue, with court hire fees meaning that more often than not, due to cost people hire the courts for doubles matches not singles. This means that in real

life there will be more cars not less, and in the real world wealthier people do not take public transport as timings never work and the system is just not reliable enough (I know this from personal experience of buses regularly failing to turn up when they should!).

Access for this site is not exactly wonderful either, already a pretty decent number of people are using the access road off the Turners Hill Road, with there being a business at the foot of the road, along with a series of apartments, a B&B, a stables, gym and a hotel. The road itself is used by pedestrians, horses, cars, regular delivery lorries and coaches. The road also floods at the top in the winter, both at the entrance from the Turners Hill Road itself and at the top corner, none of which will be addressed by this development, which should be a condition of the development to improve the access road if allowed.

Pedestrian access to the site is far from safe as there is no proper path in parts and you have to clamber over a crash barrier to access the hidden path to the site, which is not paved. The access to the site for both pedestrians and horses is hazardous at best, if not dangerous at times, with the overlap of classes at the gym meaning that there can be quite a steady stream of vehicles going in and out at any one time making it difficult for the horse riders and pedestrians.