

From: planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk <planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk>
Sent: 01 April 2026 23:58:13 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 01/04/2026 11:58 PM.

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.
Case Officer:	Hamish Evans

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Customer Details

Address: 37 Orchard Close Scaynes Hill Haywards Heath

Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Neighbour or general public
Stance:	Customer objects to the Planning Application
Reasons for comment:	
Comments:	I am writing to object to the proposed change of use of 5 Orchard Close from a C3 family dwelling to a C2 children's residential care home. Orchard Close is a small, quiet cul de sac defined by long established households, older residents, and a calm residential environment. Its character is shaped by low levels of movement, predictable daily patterns, and a long standing sense of stability,

which would be altered by the introduction of a 24 hour staffed commercial business.

The proposal would significantly increase activity within the close due to the presence of shift based employees, rotating personnel, and external professionals through the day and night. This is a pattern of use that diverges significantly from that of a typical family home. The proposal replaces the area's domestic character with a commercial and operational one.

More broadly, the proposal does not reflect the nature of Scaynes Hill itself, representing a substantial and negative shift from the established residential character of both Orchard Close and the wider village, which is a small rural settlement with very limited amenities, minimal local opportunities for older children, and infrequent public transport connections. The intensified nature of use, the institutional presence, the inadequate supporting information, and the clear mismatch between the needs of the proposed occupants and the character of the location all indicate that this development is unsuitable for its setting.

On a personal level, we moved to a family home here from Brighton several years ago specifically for its quiet, rural character as a small village. We wanted our children to grow up in a peaceful, safe area and therefore were happy to find a village that was not well connected with amenities and social activities. Our children are aged 3 and 6 and like many other residents of Scaynes Hill would likely commute to the village school alone when older, however the application is a specific cause for concern given the emotional and behavioural needs of the children who will be housed here.

The proposed application contradicts all positive attributes of Orchard Close and Scaynes Hill Village.

Kind regards