

From: planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk
Sent: 22 June 2026 20:39
To: Caroline Grist
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 22/06/2026 8:38 PM.

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:	7 Alder Way Lindfield Haywards Heath
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Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Neighbour or general public
Stance:	Customer objects to the Planning Application
Reasons for comment:	
Comments:	I believe this application raises substantial issues and we as a family strongly object The following are our most pressing concerns: 1. Highways, Access and Safety Concerns The local road network is already constrained, narrow, and in places unsuitable for the volume and type of traffic this development would generate. Construction traffic, particularly HGVs, would create serious risks for residents, pedestrians, and cyclists. There are also significant concerns regarding visibility at access points, vehicle manoeuvrability, and overall highway capacity. The introduction of additional traffic onto roads that already struggle with congestion and limited passing space is unsafe and unsustainable. Emergency vehicle access must also be considered. Currently the most amount of traffic comes from delivery drivers who are not very safe, with an additional 49 houses this will increase substantially thereby increasing the risk of accident. In practical terms, I cycle to the station and the constriction at the top of Gatesmead has already meant a few near misses- HGVs would make it very dangerous. My children ride their

bikes on the very safe Gatesmead road on their way to the Lindfield allotment; I would be very nervous about their safety with considerably more traffic.

The current greenfields offer a much safer route for walking to the station and my 16 year old son walks to the station over that route. Forcing him to walk in the unlit canopy increases his risk of danger.

2. Drainage, Flooding and Infrastructure Capacity

This is one of my most serious concerns living on Alder Way. Replacing permeable land with hard surfaces, roads, roofs, and concrete will inevitably increase surface water runoff. Local drainage systems already experience pressure, and there is no confidence that they can cope with the additional burden.

Currently the Environment Agency has officially designated the area along the Scrase Bridge Stream as a flood warning area and in times of high rain the water levels already reach the top of the bridge connecting Alder Way with Gatesmead. I would have significant concerns if there was an increased water flow due to increased surface runoff.

This raises a very real risk of localised flooding, not only within the development but to neighbouring land and homes. With increasingly severe rainfall events becoming more common, this cannot be treated as a minor issue.

With additional residents, this further increases the pressure on an already strained service system: Hospital already overwhelmed with waiting times almost 5 hours. Our GP overwhelmed currently in Cuckfield and we could not get a GP appointment for antibiotics for a child under 16.

The nearest available dentist is in Horley.

3. Loss of Biodiversity, Protected Species and Green Space

This site is not just vacant land - it is part of a wider natural habitat supporting wildlife and biodiversity. The loss of open green space and increased urbanisation will inevitably displace species and damage ecological networks. In particular, there are serious concerns regarding bats and other protected species whose habitats and commuting routes could be disrupted by tree loss, construction activity, and significant light pollution. Once this habitat is lost, it cannot simply be replaced.

The area is a natural habitat for deer, owls, voles, and building activity will cause long-lasting irreparable harm to the local wildlife.

Our children love to play in the field and with the absence of power-lines it is a great place for the kids to enjoy uninterrupted sky and fly their kites.

It is the above reasons that make us strongly object to the proposed planning application and trust that the council take these points on board and see the damage and the potential for risk that the development would cause.

Sincerely

[Redacted Signature]

Kind regards