

From: planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk <planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk>
Sent: 07 July 2025 09:48:20 UTC+01:00
To: "Stefan Galyas" <stefan.galyas@midsussex.gov.uk>
Subject: Mid Sussex DC - Online Register - Comments for Planning Application
DM/25/1185

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

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

Comments were submitted at 07/07/2025 9:46 AM.

Application Summary

Address:	Tennis Courts At St Francis Sports And Social Club Colwell Road Haywards Heath West Sussex RH16 4EZ
Proposal:	Temporary (36 months) permission for change of use of existing tennis courts to padel courts and associated works.
Case Officer:	Stefan Galyas

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Address: Flat 19, Cavendish House Southdowns Park Haywards Heath

Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Neighbour or general public
Stance:	Customer objects to the Planning Application
Reasons for comment:	
Comments:	I am writing formally to object to the application for change of use from the tennis courts to Padel courts. This will have a disproportionately negative impact on residents living in this private area, is accessed only by a privately maintained road that does not offer full public access or adequate parking. Noise and lighting. I formally object on the grounds of noise and environmental impact. Padel is known to be a far noisier and fast-paced sport

than tennis. There is absolutely no acoustic screening or dense tree planting that might contain this noise and deflect it away from the residential areas. To bring a comparison, living at the very top of Cavendish House I am disturbed by the shouting, grunting, swearing and refereeing of football matches taking place on the ground some way further and lower beyond the tennis courts (and I have only partial hearing capability). The tennis courts are far closer and far more open - the increase in noise and nuisance would be significant. The flood lighting for the football is bright and distracting - light pollution. If similar lighting is required for Padel courts this will increase such nuisance and for far longer periods of time.

Access

Southdowns Park is a private road. It is paid for by residents via our service and maintenance charges. Access for the sports facilities should only be via the hospital entrance to the Bowls Club. Yet swimming and football traffic is constantly using the very narrow parts outwith this route - coming in to our mini roundabout, turning right and using the narrow stretch of road where we have a blind bend with two children's playgrounds, one either side. And there limited space for cars to pass. It is a grave safety concern - these are our private gardens and walking areas as residents and owners of these roads and amenities. Local public roads are also heavily congested - Colwell Road is used for parking for hospital staff that can't be accommodated at the hospital itself.

Parking

The car parks all around Southdowns Park are for residents and their visitors only. These are regularly infringed by people using the swimming pool. If more people are to use the sports site then non-resident traffic must be kept away from private parking areas and directed to the paying car park next to the Bowls Club. To protect residential parking any development should pay for the installation of barriers and an ANPR system.

If the council is serious about using this area to develop a wider sports offering then it MUST create proper, genuine public access from the bypass and/or via the newer developments off the bypass if it wishes to open up that space.

Kind regards