

From: planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk <planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk>
Sent: 14 October 2025 11:16:00 UTC+01:00
To: "Hamish Evans" <hamish.evans@midsussex.gov.uk>
Subject: Mid Sussex DC - Online Register - Comments for Planning Application DM/25/1963

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

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

Comments were submitted at 14/10/2025 11:15 AM.

Application Summary

Address:	Land To The East Of Freshfield Lane Danehill West Sussex
Proposal:	Proposed construction of a new stable block on agricultural land comprising of four stables
Case Officer:	Hamish Evans

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Address: 1 Stoaches Cottages Freshfield Lane Danehill, 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 raise a number of concerns regarding planning application DM/25/1963. Several factors merit careful consideration in line with local planning policies and High Weald AONB guidance. The existing barn occupies a significant footprint within a small part of the field and already dominates the view from Freshfield Lane. The proposed stable block would add further built form, and there is a risk that cumulative development on this modest parcel of countryside could affect its openness and rural character. This

is particularly relevant to Policies DP12 (Protection and Enhancement of the Countryside) and DP26 (Character and Design) of the Mid Sussex District Plan, as well as the High Weald AONB Management Plan's objectives to preserve landscape quality, scenic views, and the traditional rural character.

I note that the previously approved barn (DM/22/0519) had specific intended uses, including the keeping of bees, sheep, and pigs, but these activities do not appear to have been established on site. It also appears that the building may be used for broader purposes not outlined in the original planning approval. These factors may be relevant in considering whether additional development on the land is appropriate and whether the proposed intensification of use is compatible with the character and capacity of the site.

I am also concerned about the potential over-intensification of land use. The applicant has indicated an intention to keep multiple animals, including horses, pigs, bees, sheep, and chickens, on a 5-acre site. While keeping four horses on this land may be acceptable in principle, the combined impact of several animal types could place pressure on grazing capacity, waste management, and biodiversity. Concentrating multiple animals in a relatively small area may also affect soil quality and local habitats, potentially conflicting with DP12 and AONB objectives to conserve biodiversity and natural resources.

Additionally, the cumulative effect of incremental development on the site, including the previously approved barn, raises concern regarding gradual erosion of the rural landscape and openness. The High Weald AONB guidance specifically encourages consideration of cumulative visual impacts and protection of local landscape character. I would also recommend a site visit, as the field is subdivided into multiple smaller lots, and the additional barn and associated hardstanding further reduce the usable space for animals, which further diminishes the sense of openness and does not align with the AONB objectives to protect the traditional open character of the landscape.

Finally, additional activity on site, including vehicle movements for feed deliveries or animal transport, may affect local road safety and the rural character of Freshfield Lane, and should also be considered in the assessment.

I would be grateful if these considerations - encompassing land use intensity, animal keeping, cumulative development, visual impact, biodiversity, and rural character - could be taken into account when assessing the proposal.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Kind regards