

From: planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk <planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk>
Sent: 13 June 2026 22:27:42 UTC+01:00
To: "Caroline Grist" <caroline.grist@midsussex.gov.uk>
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 13/06/2026 10:27 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: 8 Birchen Lane Haywards Heath

Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Neighbour or general public
Stance:	Customer objects to the Planning Application
Reasons for comment:	
Comments:	I object to this planning application on the following grounds: * Highways and access - the proposed access via Gatesmead would lead to a large increase in the volume of traffic to an already busy estate. The route passes a children's playground, an area where children regularly play outside on the street and the route will be crossing a footpath which is in regular use by walkers, dog walkers and families so raises considerable safety, capacity and visibility concerns. * Loss of biodiversity / protected species and open green space

and Undetermined rights of way (DMMO 3/22) - I have been dog walking with my family for the last 20 years across the Wickham fields and I have personally seen slow worms and regularly see woodpeckers, buzzards, red kites and sparrowhawks in the fields as well as roe deer and muntjacks. These animals will be forced out of their natural habitat, resulting in a depletion in their numbers. I have already seen this happen in the fields behind Savill Road where I lived previously and houses were built on these fields where, with my young children, we once counted a herd of 17 roe deer with their babies, sadly never to be witnessed again after the building of the houses commenced.

* Drainage, flooding and infrastructure capacity - these fields are naturally marshy and become very waterlogged as soon as there is wet weather. Some areas remain boggy all year round and there are a couple of small sink holes. The poor drainage coupled with the stream that runs parallel along the upper perimeter of the field boundary, through The Alders and along Brook Lane, could lead to a higher risk of flooding to other properties and roads in the area.

* Heritage and listed buildings - there are two beautiful Grade 2 listed properties in very close proximity which should have their historic interests protected and there should be no cause or risk of damage to them.

* Local infrastructure capacity - GP surgery - I was with Lindfield Medical Centre, along with my family, for 20 years plus. However, we have found that over the past 5-10 years it has become increasingly difficult, if not impossible, to get a GP appointment and when we did we would always have at least a 40 minute wait in the waiting room because one or two emergency appointments had come in. When you are waiting with a poorly child, this seems unacceptable. This has become so much worse because of the increase in housing in the area. Last year we all moved to The Dolphins Practice and now receive a better service and appointments when needed with little waiting time. I work in a local primary school in Lindfield and every day I see the increase in the volume of traffic in the local area and also around where I live in Birchen Lane which is where the entrance of Gatesmead is located. There has already been a huge increase in traffic here since the development behind Gatesmead. Along with traffic, the GP surgery being stretched beyond capacity as well as many other local amenities, it is only set to get a whole lot worse if more houses are built on the Wickham Fields.

Kind regards