

From: Emily Wade <Emily.Wade@midsussex.gov.uk>
Sent: 15 May 2026 12:01:45 UTC+01:00
To: "Andy Watt" <Andy.Watt@midsussex.gov.uk>
Subject: DM/26/0692 HPP College - floodlights

Hi Andy

Comments on the above planning application.

The current proposal relates to the west astro sports pitch which is part of the campus of Hurstpierpoint College. The campus also includes two Grade II listed mid-late 19th century buildings, the original college quadrangle and Star House, which are located a short distance to the east, as well as a range of other historic and modern buildings. The pitch is located just to the south of Chalkers Lane, which continues eastwards past the heart of the College, including the quadrangle and Star House.

The College is in a rural setting to the north of Hurstpierpoint. This rural setting is considered to contribute positively to the special interest of the listed buildings, in particular their historical value as buildings at the heart of a purpose-built school within the Sussex countryside (one of a number of other similar foundations during this period), and their aesthetic value.

The pitch in question was (from historical map regression) originally a field, which was adapted for use as a sports pitch possibly around the mid 20th century. The more recent introduction of astro turf surfacing and flood lights around the pitch has further reduced its rural character, although it remains a relatively open space, and is fairly prominent in the approach to the campus including the listed buildings moving along Chalkers Lane from the west. The floodlighting columns are particularly visible, rising above the boundary hedge.

The current proposal is for the retention of the existing floodlights but with upgraded LED lighting units. The appearance of the lighting columns is not suggested to change, and the submitted information suggests that there will not be any increase in light spill, which will be significant in terms of the potential impact on the surviving rural character of the settings of the listed buildings. The Council's Environmental Protection consultant has raised no objection to the application.

On this basis, the proposal is considered to preserve the settings of the listed buildings at Hurstpierpoint College, meeting the requirements of District Plan Policy DP34 and the relevant paragraphs of the NPPF.

Thanks,

Emily

Please note that this advice is given at Officer level only and is without prejudice to the formal decision of the District Council.

Submit your planning application online.
<http://www.planningportal.gov.uk>

Emily Wade Ma MSc
Conservation Officer
Planning Services
Tel: +44 (0)1444 477385
emily.wade@midsussex.gov.uk <http://www.midsussex.gov.uk>



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