

From: planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk <planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk>
Sent: 09 February 2026 17:00:26 UTC+00:00
To: "Joseph Swift" <joseph.swift@midsussex.gov.uk>
Subject: Mid Sussex DC - Online Register - Comments for Planning Application
DM/26/0073

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

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

Comments were submitted at 09/02/2026 5:00 PM.

Application Summary

Address:	Land Off West Hoathly Road East Grinstead West Sussex
Proposal:	The erection of 44 new homes with access from West Hoathly Road, vehicle and cycle parking, landscaping, drainage, and associated infrastructure and highway works.
Case Officer:	Joseph Swift

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Address:	6 The Meads East Grinstead
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Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Neighbour or general public
Stance:	Customer objects to the Planning Application
Reasons for comment:	
Comments:	We strongly object to the proposed development of 44 homes on the following grounds: 1. It does not meet AONB planning recommendations as set out by The National Planning Policy Framework regarding conserving and enhancing national landscape and scenic beauty which states that permission should be refused for major development other than in 'exceptional circumstances' or in the public interest, neither of which have been shown to exist. East Grinstead has been

subject to large scale development over recent years and has lost much of its green places already. The southern entrances to the town have a particular and beautiful character that is sadly being lost as its borders are being encroached upon with a loss to wildlife, geodiversity and biodiversity as well. Preservation of the southern side of our historic town as gateway to the edge of the Ashdown Forest is crucial not just to maintain its regional characteristics but also to enhance its relationship to the surrounding much loved landscape which upholds our place as a centre of eco tourism.

2. In the East Grinstead Housing and Infrastructure Development Survey over 70% and 80% of responders respectively said that appropriate sites for housing development were a) within the town's current built up area boundary and b) on sites which are currently developed for other uses, but could be redeveloped for housing. These are not green sites. Residents also said they were mostly attracted to East Grinstead by the character of the town then its peace and quiet and access to the Forest as well good access to shops and GP surgeries. The town's infrastructure is now seriously struggling and cannot support the existing residents as it is.

3. The road in question is an historic access with a narrow section bordered by high sandstone outcrops. It is not an easy road to drive down being also busy, steep and dark and there are frequent accidents. Walking and crossing this road is also dangerous. Access to the development appears to be on a blind bend and drops into an area of frequent flooding. Further down the recent development at Sunnyside is subject to frequent flooding and has caused a significant decrease in wildlife in the surrounding area. Sited next to the proposed development is the childrens' play field and playground, a much loved area which is will also suffer from further flooding and pollution. Across the road is a busy day nursery and an art school, all places that will suffer for the increase in traffic noise and pollution. East Grinstead (Grenestede) is valued for its green areas and clean air which is gradually disappearing.

4. Flooding is common in this area and known to be so, historically, particularly at the bottom where the mill stream runs under the road. Burst pipes are common and the whole area suffers water shortages. The new development at the other southern entrance to town, on Turners Hill, has already caused flooding further down the hill.

This proposal is unacceptable for so many reasons and we ask that the Planning Department turns it down.

Kind regards

