

From: planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk <planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk>
Sent: 10 June 2026 18:54:41 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 10/06/2026 6:54 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:	Cooper House Birmingham
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Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Neighbour or general public
Stance:	Customer objects to the Planning Application
Reasons for comment:	
Comments:	The application should not be determined until DMMO 3/22 has been resolved. The legal status of the claimed public right of way remains undetermined after several years, and it would be wrong to approve development that could prejudice the outcome of that process. If a public right of way is later confirmed, the consequences of building on or around the route could be significant and difficult to remedy. The site is an important area of open green space and wildlife

habitat. Local residents have recorded protected and notable species in and around the fields, including black redstart and slow worm. The loss of approximately 11 acres of grassland would cause substantial harm to biodiversity and the ecology evidence submitted by the applicant should be independently verified.

Access through Gatesmead raises serious highway safety concerns. Gatesmead is a residential road that was not designed to accommodate the additional traffic generated by 49 new homes. Traffic, parking, visibility and pedestrian safety are already challenging at peak times, and the application does not adequately demonstrate that these issues can be safely addressed.

The development would harm the setting of the Grade II* listed Wickham Farmhouse and Sunte House. The remaining open countryside around these heritage assets contributes significantly to their historic character and significance. Great weight should be given to preserving these assets, and the harm identified by the applicant's own consultants has not been convincingly justified.

Local infrastructure is already under pressure. GP services, school places, drainage and other community infrastructure are struggling to meet existing demand. The application does not adequately demonstrate that the cumulative impact of 49 additional homes can be accommodated without further strain on local services.

Kind regards