

From: planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk <planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk>
Sent: 10 June 2026 19:42:03 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 7:42 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: Brabourne College Road 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 formally object to planning application DM/26/1315. I have walked the route across and adjacent to the site regularly for approximately four years. I am aware that a Definitive Map Modification Order application (DMMO 3/22) lodged by Haywards Heath Town Council and Lindfield Rural Parish Council in November 2021 remains undetermined by West Sussex County Council. In my experience, this route functions as an established public access route and has done so throughout the period I have

used it. I consider it wrong for this planning application to be determined before the legal status of that right of way has been established. To do so risks prejudicing both the planning decision and any future enforcement of the route, and I ask that MSDC defer determination of DM/26/1315 until DMMO 3/22 is resolved.

On ecology, I have personally heard what I believe to be nesting calls from birds of prey on and immediately adjacent to the site, and have observed woodpeckers in the local area. The presence of nesting raptors indicates undisturbed, functioning habitat. I understand residents have formally documented red kites, buzzards, sparrowhawks and Schedule 1 protected species including black redstart and slow worm on the site. Given this, I do not consider the applicant's ecology evidence to be adequate, and I ask that an independent ecological survey be required before any determination is made.

The site comprises approximately 11 acres of open grassland representing one of very few remaining accessible green spaces with meadow and woodland character in this part of Haywards Heath. Its loss would be irreversible and the harm to biodiversity unmitigable once built out.

I ask that application DM/26/1315 be refused. If it is to be determined at all, I ask that it be referred to the Planning Committee rather than decided under delegated powers, given the unresolved legal status of DMMO 3/22, the ecology concerns, and the proximity of two Grade II* listed buildings.

Kind regards