

Peter Davies

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 03 July 2025 15:33
To: planninginfo
Subject: Statement towards Application DM/25/11298

[REDACTED]

Statement in support of Application Reference DM/25/11298

Hello,

I would like to write in support of planning application DM/25/11298 for a Kangaroos Community Hub to be part of the Wates Development at Foxhole Farm in Bolney.

Our son has attended Kangaroos supported activities and SEN social clubs for well over a decade now, with benefits towards his social inclusion, physical and mental well-being, skill developments, and a positive impact that then benefits our whole family.

In the time we have attended Kangaroos activities we have become very familiar with a large number of venues, spread across Mid Sussex and sometimes leading to confusion as activities are moved from one location to another as Kangaroos tries to schedule activities around other users.

We and our son have become used to this, but it's not easy when transitions and new locations and environments can be a challenge. Also, I am personally aware of at least half a dozen families who have been on the wait list for Kangaroos activities for years trying to access the support we can't praise highly enough.

To have a purpose built, dedicated hub, accessible for all the varied individuals and families that Kangaroos supports would be fantastic. To have it close to Haywards Heath means existing users of the service can continue to access it without too much difficulty (most families have cars so the journey time won't be significantly different, and perhaps easier if avoiding the centre of Haywards Heath during busy evening times).

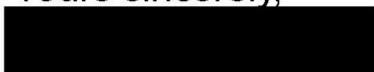
It would also allow Kangaroos to customise their space to better meet the needs of their users, and critically would allow them to expand their offerings for local families in desperate need of SEN supportive social activities and parent groups — away from often stressful school environments and offering activities based on individual interests, support groups based on similar lived experiences (diagnoses, etc), and allowing families and young people to mix with greater confidence in a space made to meet their needs.

For those on the autistic spectrum the familiarity of the environment would have the added bonus of removing changes and challenges that come with introducing our young people to new spaces — reducing their sensory overload and opening up opportunities for them to focus instead on the activities and relationships which are often lost in the chaos and stress of trying to adapt to new sound/sensory environments.

With the promise of an outdoor space near to the building this project would also allow Kangaroos to build on and expand their offering of outdoor activities in a space near to the changing, toilet and other facilities they need to meet the needs of the young people attending sessions. For my son, the outdoor sports and games nights, are one of the only physical activities he enjoys participating in regularly so having that space, to continue offering and possibly expanding some of their outdoor offerings would be yet another positive.

I sincerely hope this application will receive permission to go ahead as I can see how beneficial and necessary it is for Kangaroos to have their own space before they can expand to supporting even more families. Our family is so much happier for having Kangaroos in our lives and I sincerely want what we've had access to to be available to as many families as possible.

Yours sincerely,

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