

From: planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk <planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk>
Sent: 22 June 2026 13:34:32 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 22/06/2026 1:34 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: 22 birchen lane Haywards Heath

Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Neighbour or general public
Stance:	Customer objects to the Planning Application
Reasons for comment:	
Comments:	Dear Sir or Madam, I am writing to you to lodge a formal objection to the plans to build 49 homes on Land west of Gatesmead known locally as Wickham Fields, Haywards Heath. DM /26/1315 The substance of our objections are enumerated below:- 1. There is an existing planning question being considered by the

council planners, nominally DMMO 3/22, which is still work-in-progress. Before any planning issue can be considered, the 'right of way question' over the fields needs to be fully explored and determined. Many of us local residents use the field to walk our dogs and to take exercise on a nice country walk. We use it as a 'scenic route' to access amenities close to Haywards Heath Station and to use the station itself. It seems to me that the proposed plan - DM/26/1315 - attempts to steamroller through, and to invalidate, due process.

2. The plan threatens substantial species of wildlife including the black redstart which is a protected species.

In a personal note, our grandchildren delight in seeing and learning about the deer, rabbits and birds in addition to the diverse flora in the fields.

Many other families use the fields in this way and what better way to reduce screen time !

3. The increased traffic using Gatesmead as an egress to Portsmouth Road will be a nightmare for residents of Gatesmead . It will also present a safety threat to Birchen Lane residents. I have personally experienced near car accidents as Gatesmead residents already pull out onto Birchen Lane, turning left without looking at cars coming down Birchen Lane.

Gatesmead is at one point a single track road which is totally unsuitable as the only access road for site traffic .

An additional point is that the council owned portion of Birchen Lane, between the Gatesmead turning and Portsmouth Road, is rutted and riddled with potholes, a condition which will only deteriorate much more quickly with the increased traffic.

4. How will local Infrastructure cope with the influx of 200+ inhabitants in these new homes going forward? We already know that local GP surgeries and schools are already over-subscribed. What plans are there to address this?

5. Grade II listed buildings, - Sunte House and Wickham Farmhouse - their surroundings and their heritage are threatened by the proposed development. In my view, there can be no viable plan to mitigate the impact on these historic buildings.

In conclusion, we confirm our objection to DM/26/1315 and ask that the application be refused. Given the still unresolved legal status of DMMO 3/22, I ask that the application and all recorded objections, be considered by the full Planning Committee rather than under delegated powers.

Kind regards