

From: planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk <planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk>
Sent: 15 June 2026 14:45:41 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 15/06/2026 2:45 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 Sunte Clise Haywards Heath
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Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Neighbour or general public
Stance:	Customer objects to the Planning Application
Reasons for comment:	
Comments:	I am registering my objection to this planning application on several grounds. Firstly, this is one of the last areas of nature that is within walking distance of my home. I have regularly used it for the last twenty years to walk, jog and exercise my dog. The loss of this access to nature will be detrimental for both my and future generations' physical and mental health, enjoying a quiet, rural environment. The only other walkable open space is Clair Hall which is small and urban in character with the space often formally used for cricket and other activities. This is not to mention

the antisocial behaviour that occurs there. I am yet to witness antisocial behaviour in Wickham Fields. Additionally there is wildlife in the field such as green woodpeckers and slow worms which I regularly see. The development would be detrimental to these species and another loss for future generations. The plot of land lies adjacent to listed buildings and the development would harm their significance as such. For example, whilst there are trees near Wickham Farmhouse, during the winter they offer little seclusion for several months. Then there is the issue of access. Gatesmead is not an appropriate access point for a development of this size and was not built for this purpose. I have seen near misses at the junction of Birchen Lane and Portsmouth Lane and the additional traffic generated by the development would only exacerbate this and potentially lead to road traffic collisions. I also understand that the footpath north of Wickham Lane through the site which I have used for twenty years is undetermined as a Public Right of Way. I do not see how the planning application can be considered when the features, exact location and legal status of this footpath has not been formally agreed. I am also concerned that the cumulative effect of approving local planning applications in this area is merging the distinction between towns and villages, leading to urban sprawl and a loss of their individual character and attractiveness. Finally, there will be a negative impact on other physical and social infrastructure in this area which struggles already with waiting times for doctor and hospital appointments, availability of dentists and school places that can be reached by foot or bicycle. Similarly drinking water and drainage vulnerabilities already exist in this area. Ardingly reservoir has been so low recently that water provision to properties has been at high risk. This will only worsen due to climate change and the higher water demand and increased run off from the built environment created by this development cannot be sustainable. In summary, I object to planning application DM/26/1315 and ask that it be refused. I also believe that given the circumstances I have outlined above, this application should be determined through the Planning Committee and not through delegated authority. Regards,

Kind regards