

From: planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk <planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk>
Sent: 22 March 2025 18:01:58 UTC+00:00
To: "Hamish Evans" <hamish.evans@midsussex.gov.uk>
Subject: Mid Sussex DC - Online Register - Comments for Planning Application
DM/25/0589

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Planning Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 22/03/2025 6:01 PM.

Application Summary

Address:	Land North Of Leylands Road Burgess Hill West Sussex
Proposal:	The installation of 1 No. 30 metre high lattice tower mounted with 9 No. antennas, 12 No. cabinets, within a compound comprised of 2.4 metre high palisade fencing painted green, 1 No. electrical metre cabinet and associated development thereto.
Case Officer:	Hamish Evans

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Address:	10 The Blackthorns Burgess Hill
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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 writing to formally object to the proposed installation of a phone mast on Land North of Leylands Road, as outlined in planning application DM/25/0589. While I appreciate the importance of improving mobile network coverage, this particular proposal raises serious concerns that I believe must be addressed. One of my primary concerns is the potential impact on local wildlife. My property backs onto the land and I have a hedgehog hole in my fence. My garden is home to a pond that serves as a habitat for newts, as well as regular visits from hedgehogs. These species contribute to the biodiversity of our community, and I am deeply

worried that the installation and operation of a phone mast could disturb their natural behaviours, or worse, lead to habitat loss. Construction activities may cause lasting damage to this delicate ecosystem, and the presence of the mast could have unforeseen consequences on the wildlife that rely on these environments. The land is only just recovering from the devastation caused by the Railway shoring up the embankment in 2019. Many trees were lost and some cut back so much that they have since died. No effort has been made to replace the trees!

Additionally, the mast would have a detrimental visual impact on the surrounding area, disrupting the character of our community and potentially lowering property values. The proposed location's proximity to residential areas compounds the issue, as the structure would be an eyesore and affect the overall quality of life for residents. Furthermore the area is part of the Green Circle, I can't see anything Green about this proposal?

I am also concerned about potential health risks associated with prolonged exposure to electromagnetic radiation emitted by phone masts. Although assurances are often given by regulatory bodies, these concerns remain a significant point of anxiety for many local families, including my own. The fact that some of the antennas proposed are actually pointing towards our properties, away from the railway. Would this be a bid to increase the 5G network to residents in a trade-off for planning permission? There may only be nine antennas in the proposal, but who would police additional installations once the tower is in place? I can only assume that the staggering mast height is to ensure the radio signals travel over the high Oak trees to the West of the plot, with the potential to service some of the new housing development West of Freaks Lane?

As this installation has been raised by Cellnex in support of electronic communication for the Brighton Main Line railway, surely better sites could be located for this relatively high up and straight section of railway? I notice that there is an Electricity Pylon off Rocky Lane that already has transmitters erected, this Pylon towers above the Viaduct and would easily supply communications to trains travelling North into the cutting near Bolnore Woods, and South down to Wivelsfield Station. I commuted to London for over 30 years and experienced the growth of Cellular Communications first hand, I know all the black spots from Burgess Hill to London Bridge, and the area North of Wivelsfield is not one!

I strongly urge the council to reconsider the chosen location for this installation and explore alternative sites further removed from residential areas and sensitive ecosystems. Prioritising community consultation in the decision-making process would demonstrate a commitment to balancing infrastructure needs with environmental preservation and public well-being.

Thank you for considering my objection.

Kind regards

