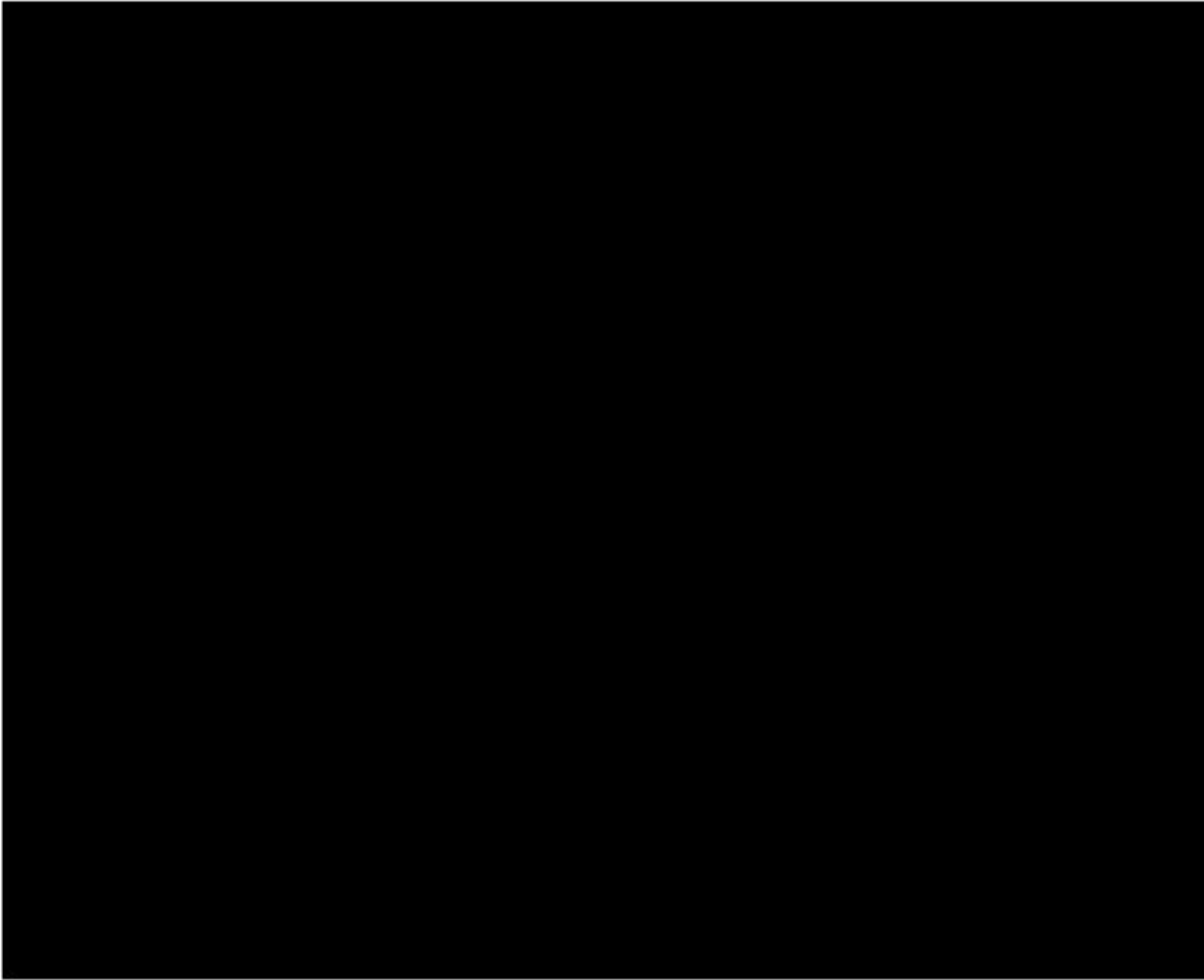




Planning application DM/26/0682

Dear Mr King

Notwithstanding that the Notification of Planning Application is for appearance, layout, scale and landscaping only, but fortunately the reverse side allows concerned respondents to comment upon a more important issue, namely highway safety.

Access arrangements will provide a Puffin crossing to allow pedestrians to cross Fox Hill safely. Unfortunately, the same cannot be said for other future residents of Hurst Farm and the proposed developments DPH9 and DPH10 wishing to cross the road near the junction with Hurstwood Lane in order to access the northbound bus stop from the eastern side of Lunce's Hill. Residents from existing and future developments will be discouraged from participating in walking and cycling due to the absence of a safe crossing point in order to proceed in a northerly direction or to enter Hurstwood Lane other than by car.

This issue has been raised previously by myself (DM/25/0445) and others in elected positions, including the Highway Authority and Haywards Heath Town Council. The argument that such a crossing may adversely impact the wider highway network should have received greater attention when presented to the Planning Committee in August 2023. The layout of parcel 2 and the northern part of parcel 3 indicates that residents will take the shortest route to the nearest bus stop via Hurstwood Lane rather than via the proposed Toucan crossing on Fox Hill, which is primarily intended for the use by school children without a school to attend, thereby avoiding to cross what will be a busy section of highway twice, during the peak hour periods if heading south. The wider highway network will already be adversely impacted as a result of queuing traffic from the south attempting to enter Hurstwood Lane due to the absence of signalised junctions. This ill-conceived planning application will come back to haunt Mid Sussex District Council, who have ignored the legitimate concerns of local residents due to financial gain.

