

Joseph Swift

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 12 February 2026 20:28
To: Joseph Swift
Subject: OBJECTION LETTER – DM/26/0073 Land Off West Hoathly Road, East Grinstead
44 dwellings with access, parking, landscaping and associated works.

[REDACTED]

This application site is located outside the Built-Up Area Boundary (BUAB) of East Grinstead as defined in the Mid Sussex District Plan and is therefore designated as countryside.

This designation exists to safeguard the rural setting of the town and to protect the surrounding countryside from inappropriate development that would undermine its character and function. Local planning policies DP12 (Protection and Enhancement of the Countryside) and DP15 (New Homes in the Countryside) place strict limits on new housing in such locations, permitting development only in genuinely exceptional circumstances. These policies reflect the clear expectations of the local community that countryside land around East Grinstead should be protected from incremental housing growth and urban sprawl.

The proposed development directly conflicts with these policies and would result in unjustified encroachment into the countryside, eroding the established settlement boundary and setting a damaging precedent for further development outside the BUAB.

No exceptional circumstances have been demonstrated to justify overriding the adopted development plan or the strong local opposition to housing in this location. Allowing this proposal would undermine the purpose of the Built-Up Area Boundary, weaken confidence in the planning system, and fail to respect the community's long-standing efforts to protect the rural character and identity of the area. For these reasons, the application should be refused.

When I moved here it was then designated as part of the High Weald AONB which had even stricter rules on development and it was a large part of our decision making to move to Sunnyside.

On top of that, as demonstrated by South East Water, the supporting infrastructure and services are not in place to serve the development.

At the least any decision should be left until the large development on Imberhorne Farm (which ironically has no water right now) is completed and the impact of that on services can be assessed.

[REDACTED]