

From: planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk <planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk>
Sent: 02 June 2026 19:08:23 UTC+01:00
To: "Anna Tidey" <anna.tidey@midsussex.gov.uk>
Subject: Mid Sussex DC - Online Register - Comments for Planning Application
DM/26/1132

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

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

Comments were submitted at 02/06/2026 7:08 PM.

Application Summary

Address:	Land Parcel To The North Of Nos. 42-54 Hurst Road Hassocks West Sussex
Proposal:	Proposed tractor parking area, donkey enclosure, donkey stable, 3 shepherd huts and a wildlife pond.
Case Officer:	Anna Tidey

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Address:	86 Wickham Hill Hurstpierpoint
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Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Neighbour or general public
Stance:	Customer made comments in support of the Planning Application
Reasons for comment:	
Comments:	Having lived in both Hassocks and Hurstpierpoint for many years, our family has long enjoyed walking along Belmont Lane, and we wish to register our strong support for this planning application. The proposal represents a well-planned and sustainable form of rural development that combines appropriate land management, high standards of animal welfare and meaningful ecological enhancement.

The proposed donkey enclosure and stable will provide suitable facilities for the care and welfare of the animals while supporting the ongoing management of the site. The tractor parking area is a practical requirement that will assist in maintaining the land responsibly and efficiently.

Of particular merit is the inclusion of the wildlife pond. The creation of new freshwater habitat is widely recognised as one of the most effective measures for increasing biodiversity within the countryside. The pond has the potential to provide valuable habitat for amphibians, aquatic invertebrates, birds, pollinators and other wildlife, contributing positively to local ecological networks and habitat connectivity.

The proposal is consistent with the objectives of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), which encourages developments that protect and enhance the natural environment and secure measurable gains for biodiversity. The introduction of a wildlife pond, together with the sympathetic management of the surrounding land, offers the opportunity to deliver biodiversity net gains through the creation of new habitats and increased ecological value across the site.

Furthermore, the development appears to be of a scale and design that respects the rural character of the area. Shepherd huts sit comfortably within a countryside setting, particularly where landscaping and habitat enhancement measures form part of the overall scheme.

In addition to the direct ecological benefits, the proposal promotes sustainable rural land use, supports animal welfare and contributes to the wider environmental objectives increasingly sought through the planning system. The combination of habitat creation and responsible stewardship of the land makes this an example of how rural sites can be managed in a way that benefits both people and nature.

For these reasons, I believe the proposal will deliver positive environmental outcomes, including biodiversity enhancement, while remaining appropriate to its rural setting. I therefore fully support the application and respectfully encourage the Council to grant planning permission.

Kind regards