

From: planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk <planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk>
Sent: 09 June 2026 09:52:33 UTC+01:00
To: "Andrew Horrell" <andrew.horrell@midsussex.gov.uk>
Subject: Mid Sussex DC - Online Register - Comments for Planning Application
DM/26/0850

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

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

Comments were submitted at 09/06/2026 9:52 AM.

Application Summary

Address:	Friars Oak Farmhouse London Road Hassocks West Sussex BN6 9NA
Proposal:	Proposed garage and workshop single storey with pitched tiled roof. Timber framed, shiplap walls. Ground mounted on a metal frame providing ground clearance, Solar PV, 10 kW array (tree report and protection plan received 05/06)
Case Officer:	Andrew Horrell

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Customer Details

Address: 30 The Fairway Hassocks

Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Neighbour or general public
Stance:	Customer objects to the Planning Application
Reasons for comment:	
Comments:	I am writing to formally supplement my previous objection regarding the proposed garage and workshop at Friar's Oak Farmhouse. Following the unauthorized felling of trees on the site, it is critical to bring further severe environmental breaches and unlawful construction to the Council's attention. 1. Severe Ecological Destruction & Protected Species The applicant's destructive actions have directly targeted a vital

local ecosystem. The felled trees were a known habitat for multiple bird species and served as a foraging and roosting site for Common Pipistrelle bats.

Crucial Legal Note: In the UK, all bat species and their roosts are strictly protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations. It is a criminal offence to deliberately disturb a bat, or to damage or destroy their breeding site or resting place.

By falsely claiming on the application that no trees would be affected, the applicant has bypassed mandatory ecological triggers. This is a blatant attempt to destroy evidence of protected wildlife before an officer can inspect it. I object in the strongest possible terms: nature must not suffer simply because someone wants a workshop.

2. Contempt of the Planning Process (Unlawful Development)

Furthermore, the applicant is treating the planning process with utter contempt. Work on this development has already begun without permission.

Specifically, the solar panels included in the planning application have already been fully erected on the site. Building the infrastructure of a project before permission has even been considered is a flagrant breach of planning regulations.

Conclusion

The applicant is attempting to force this development through by creating a fait accompli-destroying protected habitats and building the structures before the Council can rule on them.

I urge the Planning Authority to:

Halt any further consideration of this application immediately.

Initiate enforcement action regarding the unauthorized construction of the solar panels and workshop foundations.

Involve the Council's Ecology Officer and refer this matter to wildlife crime authorities regarding the potential destruction of a European Protected Species habitat.

Kind regards