

From: planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk <planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk>
Sent: 14 June 2025 22:51:14 UTC+01:00
To: "Hamish Evans" <hamish.evans@midsussex.gov.uk>
Subject: Mid Sussex DC - Online Register - Comments for Planning Application
DM/25/1349

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

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

Comments were submitted at 14/06/2025 10:51 PM.

Application Summary

Address:	Land At Ockley Park Ockley Hill Ockley Lane Hassocks West Sussex
Proposal:	The installation of 1 No. 25 metre high lattice tower mounted with 9 No. antenna apertures and 3 No. GPS nodes, 12 No. cabinets, within a compound comprised of 2.4 metre high green palisade fence, 1 No. electrical metre cabinet and associated development thereto
Case Officer:	Hamish Evans

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Address: 7 Hatchlands Cuckfield Haywards Heath

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 5G telecommunications mast at Ockley Park, Ockley Hill, Ockley Lane, Hassocks, West Sussex, which I understand is currently under consideration. I am deeply concerned about the impact such a development would have on this semi-rural environment and the wellbeing of

local wildlife. The proposed site is located in an area that is home to a variety of birds and bees and forms part of an important natural habitat.

My objections are based on the following grounds:

1. Environmental and Ecological Concerns

The surrounding countryside in this area supports a wide array of wildlife, including protected and at-risk species. The introduction of a large 5G mast, including associated infrastructure, could disturb animal behaviour, particularly migratory patterns, nesting, and foraging activities. There is insufficient data on how 5G frequencies impact non-human animals, and until such evidence is robust and independently verified, precaution should guide planning decisions.

Nearby woodlands such as Butcher's Wood, Lag Wood, Bonny's Wood, and Ockenden Wood are home to a variety of species.

These areas support native flora like bluebells and wood anemones, and fauna including bats, birds, and insects. Notably, Bonny's Wood has been identified as a habitat for Bechstein's bats, a species of conservation concern.

Bats: Species such as Bechstein's bats, pipistrelle bats, and other bat species utilise the local woodlands and bat boxes provided by conservation efforts.

Birds: The area supports a variety of bird species, including tawny owls, barn owls, nuthatches, great tits, and blue tits. Conservation initiatives have established nesting sites to support these populations.

Amphibians and Reptiles: Great crested newts have been observed in local areas such as the Clayton Wood Natural Burial Ground, indicating the presence of suitable breeding habitats.

Invertebrates: The diverse habitats support a range of invertebrate species, including pollinators like bees and butterflies, which are crucial for the local ecosystem.

2. Landscape and Visual Intrusion

The mast and equipment would be starkly out of place in this semi-rural landscape, which is largely unspoiled and appreciated for its natural beauty. Such visual intrusion undermines the character of the area and could set a worrying precedent for further industrial development.

3. Lack of Community Consultation

Many local residents were unaware of this proposal until very recently, and there has been no meaningful engagement with the community. For a development of this nature-especially in a sensitive location-transparency and public consultation are essential.

4. Precautionary Principle and Need for Further Research

Given the uncertainties surrounding long-term exposure to 5G radiation and the lack of comprehensive environmental risk assessments, I urge the council to apply the precautionary principle. In semi-rural areas where connectivity needs can often be met through less invasive methods, the installation of such a mast appears disproportionate.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that this planning application be refused. I would be grateful if my objection could be formally recorded, and I would appreciate being kept informed of any developments or hearings related to this application.

Kind regards