

From: Emily Wade <Emily.Wade@midsussex.gov.uk>
Sent: 25 February 2025 16:20:10 UTC+00:00
To: "Andy Watt" <Andy.Watt@midsussex.gov.uk>
Subject: DM/25/0117 HPP College- car park lighting

Hi Andy

Initial comments on the above application following our site visit this morning.

The application site, Hurstpierpoint College, is an extensive college campus with at its heart a linked pair of Grade II listed buildings- the original quadrangle dating from 1853, and Star House to the east, built as the headmaster's house and dating from 1873. The College campus has developed significantly since its foundation, by incremental additions to the built form around the quadrangle, particularly to the west, north west, and east. The College sits in a rural setting to the north of Hurstpierpoint- this surviving rural setting contributes positively to the historical illustrative value of the listed buildings as a 19th century school deliberately established in a semi-isolated rural position, and to their aesthetic value.

The current proposal, which is retrospective relates to the addition of new lighting units to existing lighting columns located between an all weather pitch to the south of the quadrangle and the car parking area which sits between the two.

The existing lighting columns are a fairly prominent and unattractive feature of the setting to the south of the listed buildings, but the additional light units are themselves relatively modest in scale and will have little additional visual impact. However, it will be useful to understand better the level of lighting that will be provided over and above the existing lighting in the area, to ensure that this will not in itself detract from the surviving semi-rural character of the setting of the listed buildings. Typically, we would encourage low level, unobtrusive lighting of parking areas and pathways in the vicinity of heritage assets, particularly in a rural context, and at face value the lights which have been installed here, which have the appearance of floodlighting, would raise concerns in this respect. I would suggest that additional information in the form of night time images of the lighting in use are provided to aid our understanding of this aspect of the proposal. Photographs taken in the immediate vicinity of the buildings and also looking towards the parking area from further south along College Lane would be useful.

Thanks,

Emily

Please note that this advice is given at Officer level only and is without prejudice to the formal decision of the District Council.

Submit your planning application online.
<http://www.planningportal.gov.uk>

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