

From: planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk <planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk>
Sent: 05 January 2026 08:16:07 UTC+00:00
To: "Katherine Williams" <katherine.williams@midsussex.gov.uk>
Subject: Mid Sussex DC - Online Register - Comments for Planning Application
DM/25/3146

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

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

Comments were submitted at 05/01/2026 8:16 AM.

Application Summary

Address:	Antler Homes Development Site Anscombe Woods Crescent Haywards Heath West Sussex
Proposal:	The erection of two buildings to provide: 2 no. 4 bedroom houses and 6 no.1 bed apartments (total 8 units), with associated access, car parking, covered cycle parking, refuse store and woodland management plan
Case Officer:	Katherine Williams

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Customer Details

Address:	2 Colwell Road Haywards Heath
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Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Neighbour or general public
Stance:	Customer objects to the Planning Application
Reasons for comment:	
Comments:	<p>I wish to formally object to the above planning application for the erection of two buildings providing eight residential units at Anscombe Woods Crescent.</p> <p>My objection is based on the severe and irreversible harm this development would cause to the adjacent ancient woodland, local wildlife and the wider ecological balance of this area, as well as</p>

the cumulative impact of overdevelopment in Haywards Heath.

Anscombe Woods is an ancient woodland. By definition, this habitat is irreplaceable. Even where development does not directly remove woodland, it causes significant damage through disturbance, root zone disruption, hydrological change, increased light spill, noise, domestic activity and long term pressure from human occupation.

The introduction of eight new dwellings immediately adjacent to this woodland would fundamentally alter the conditions required for its survival. Construction works, access routes, parking, lighting and ongoing domestic use would erode the woodland edge and lead to gradual but inevitable degradation. Buffer zones cannot mitigate this level of harm.

National planning policy is clear that development resulting in the loss or deterioration of ancient woodland should be refused unless there are wholly exceptional reasons. No such justification has been demonstrated in this application.

This woodland represents one of the last remaining refuges for wildlife in an area that has already seen extensive residential development. The cumulative loss of green corridors has left species increasingly isolated, with Anscombe Woods functioning as a final sanctuary.

Birds, bats, mammals and invertebrates rely on the continuity and tranquillity of this habitat. Increased human presence, vehicle movements, artificial lighting, noise and domestic pets will cause displacement and long term decline. Once lost, this biodiversity cannot be recreated elsewhere.

This proposal would effectively suffocate what little viable habitat remains, pushing wildlife beyond the point of recovery in this part of Haywards Heath.

Haywards Heath has already experienced significant housing growth in recent years. Incremental developments such as this, while individually modest in scale, collectively place overwhelming pressure on green spaces and ecological networks.

This site should be considered in the context of what has already been built, not in isolation. Each further incursion reduces the resilience of the remaining natural environment. This application represents a tipping point where the last fragments of undisturbed land are being sacrificed.

The proposed development would result in unacceptable harm to ancient woodland, protected wildlife and the ecological integrity of the area. These impacts are permanent and disproportionate when weighed against the limited benefit of eight additional

housing units.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Council to refuse this application

Kind regards