

From: planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk <planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk>
Sent: 30 March 2026 07:46:57 UTC+01:00
To: "Hamish Evans" <hamish.evans@midsussex.gov.uk>
Subject: Mid Sussex DC - Online Register - Comments for Planning Application
DM/26/0540

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

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

Comments were submitted at 30/03/2026 7:46 AM.

Application Summary

Address:	5 Orchard Close Scaynes Hill Haywards Heath West Sussex RH17 7PQ
Proposal:	Change of Use from dwellinghouse (Use Class C3) to children's residential care home (Use Class C2) for up to (2/3) children. No external alterations proposed.
Case Officer:	Hamish Evans

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Address:	1 Orchard Close Scaynes Hill
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Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Neighbour or general public
Stance:	Customer objects to the Planning Application
Reasons for comment:	
Comments:	The proposed change of use from a family dwelling (Use Class C3) to a children's residential care home (Use Class C2) would result in a fundamental and harmful change to the established character of Orchard Close. The cul-de-sac is defined by its quiet, low-density, and stable residential environment, comprised of long-term family homes. The proposed use is materially different in both function and intensity from that of a single household.

A residential care setting of this nature is, by its very operation, more intensive and institutional in character. The presence of shift-based staff, multiple unrelated occupants, and the regular involvement of external professionals would generate a level of activity far beyond that typically associated with a private dwelling. Frequent staff handovers, professional visits, and increased vehicle movements would introduce a persistent pattern of comings and goings that is wholly at odds with the established tranquillity of the street.

This intensified and organised form of occupation would erode the quiet enjoyment of neighbouring properties and undermine the cohesive, domestic character of the area. It would introduce an overtly institutional presence into a setting that is neither designed nor appropriate for such use, resulting in a clear and unacceptable mismatch with its surroundings.

The harm arising is not minor or incidental; it goes to the heart of the character and amenity of Orchard Close. The proposal would significantly diminish the sense of place and fail to safeguard the living conditions that residents are entitled to expect within a residential cul-de-sac.

Accordingly, the development is in direct conflict with the objectives of the Mid Sussex District Plan, in particular Policies DP26 and DP28, which seek to protect local character and residential amenity. It is also contrary to the National Planning Policy Framework, which requires development to be sympathetic to local character and to secure a high standard of amenity for existing and future occupants.

For these reasons, the proposal is unequivocally unacceptable and should be refused.

Kind regards