

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 25 September 2026 11:52
To: planninginfo
Subject: Objection to Planning Application DM/26/2178

[REDACTED] 29 College Lane Hurstpierpoint West Sussex, BN69AB

Planning Department Mid Sussex District Council Oaklands Road Haywards Heath West Sussex RH16 1SS

Subject: Formal Objection to Planning Application DM/26/2178 — Proposed 6 Dwellings at Land Between 149 and 161 College Lane, Hurstpierpoint

To the Planning Committee,

I am writing to register my strongest possible objection to the proposed development of six dwellings at the site between 149 and 161 College Lane (Planning Application DM/26/2178).

My objection is rooted not only in the technical failings of this application, but in my daily, lived reality on this road. College Lane is already fundamentally overwhelmed by traffic. As a resident, I routinely witness terrifying near-misses between vehicles, pedestrians, and cyclists who are forced to share a dangerously narrow space. Furthermore, as an Age UK volunteer, I rely on this route to support vulnerable elderly members of our community. There have been multiple occasions where I have been physically unable to reach people who urgently needed my help because the lane was entirely gridlocked. The infrastructure is already failing us.

Looking at this specific application, adding six large family homes means introducing approximately 20 additional parked vehicles to the area. However, it is deeply flawed to assess this application in a vacuum. It must be judged against the sheer volume of development currently suffocating College Lane:

- **Compounding an Already Dangerous Precedent (DM/24/1139):** The council recently approved seven homes right next door at 147-149 College Lane. That development alone forced a new estate junction and 17 parking spaces onto this stretch of road. During the review of that application, the lack of continuous pedestrian footpaths was highlighted as a severe safety risk. Approving *another* 20 vehicles and a *second* junction immediately adjacent will create a lethal collision zone for anyone attempting to navigate the lane on foot.
- **The Looming Thakeham Development:** We are already facing the massive strategic threat of the Thakeham scheme, which seeks to push an additional 75 homes onto the land just east of College Lane.
- **Hurstpierpoint College Expansion (DM/25/3199):** Residential sprawl is not the only issue. The recently approved two-storey expansion at the college guarantees a permanent, significant increase in coaches, heavy delivery lorries, and service vehicles routinely using our road.

College Lane is an historic, restrictive route defined by parked cars and single-file pinch points. It was never designed to be a major thoroughfare. Attempting to force the cumulative traffic of a major campus expansion and roughly 100 new homes down this inadequate, sub-standard

highway is a blatant contradiction of the safety and traffic capacity requirements set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

This lane cannot handle any more building, full stop. I urge the council to recognize the dangerous tipping point we have already reached and reject this application outright.

Yours faithfully,

 Resident of 29 College Lane