

Councilor Katherine Williams
Mid Sussex District Council
Oaklands Road
Haywards Heath
West Sussex
RH16 1SS

3 Woodland Close
Crawley Down
West Sussex
RH10 4JZ

08 July 2025

Re: Merrow woods site allocations development plan behind woodland Close Crawley Down

Application ref: DM/25/1593

Dear councillor Williams,

I have lived in the vicinity of this proposed site for more than 63yrs. The site will back onto the rear of my garden.

I wish to object to the aforementioned application on the following grounds:

1. I have a magnificent established oak tree over 60 years old bordering the proposed site which I have nurtured and protected throughout the entire 63yrs that I have resided at No 3 Woodland Close. The approximate height is at least 80ft high and the trunk measures 13ft. I have been advised that the average estimated length of roots on an oak tree this age can be as long as 12 times the diameter of the tree making the distance 156 ft. This is just an estimate and it may be even greater. I also have an established Cherry tree alongside the oak tree again bordering the field which is over 60rs old. The diameter of this trees trunk is 7.5ft. Any building work and disturbance close to my tree will seriously undermine its stability.
2. My house is situated approximately 12ft below the proposed site. The proposed 4 houses with gardens backing onto my garden will not only cause damage to the roots of my trees but will also cause subsidence to the upper bank at the rear of my garden. The proposed site will also overlook and look down upon my back bedroom and bathroom. Due to the height difference above my property I am concerned that the proposed site will also affect my right to natural light.
3. Noise pollution will be unbearable and so much louder as my house is in a 12ft drop down from the proposed site. Dust and debris whilst the building project takes place will certainly fall over my property, especially as my property is so much lower than the proposed site having an impact on my physical and mental health, not to mention the damage to my garden and house.
4. Since the Burleigh Wood Estate was built I have had flooding to the rear of my property turning the grassed area into sludge. This problem never existed prior to the estate being built and feel certain that it will only get worse.
5. Loss of natural habitat and wild life. Many Badger, deer, squirrels, bats and bird life will be seriously affected. The deer are seen to the rear of my garden daily.

6. Highway safety. Proposing yet another road on woodland close which now consists of just 12 houses is not safe for road users or residents. The proposed road will run along the side of number 13 Woodland Close which already has a road running along the other side. It will affectedly make the bungalow an island. The resident an elderly lady has lived there for over 60yrs and it will certainly affect her mental health. There will also be reduced off road parking which will affect at least 4 of the properties on Woodland Close.

7. The main sewage pipes along Woodland Close road are over 60yrs old and in a poor state. They are made of black pitch fibre and will not be able to withstand any additional use by other dwellings.

I would like to ask the Council for the aforementioned reasons to refuse this unsafe and unsuitable planning application.

Regards,

