

Delegated Decision

Sign off Sheet

Ref. No:	DM/26/0702	Case Officer:	Peter Davies
Application Type:	Householder Application		
Proposal:	Proposed porch with obscured side facing window to create a ground-floor accessible wc		
Site:	4 Hurst Gardens, Hurstpierpoint, Hassocks, West Sussex, BN6 9ST, , ,		
Validation Date	19 Mar 2026	Overall Expiry Date:	14 Apr 2026
Pre-Commencement Conditions Required:		Pre-Com Conditions Date Agreed:	
Recommendation:	Permission	Recommendation Date:	13 May 2026
Target Date:	14 May 2026	Recommending Officer Signature:	Peter Davies

Date Legal Agreement Completed: (if applicable)		No of Representations:	0
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Signed and Agreed By:	Stephen Ashdown	Date:	13 May 2026
Comments:			

MID SUSSEX DISTRICT COUNCIL

DM/26/0702

**4 Hurst Gardens, Hurstpierpoint, Hassocks, West Sussex, BN6 9ST, ,
Proposed porch with obscured side facing window to create a ground-floor accessible wc
Mr Raymond Bristowe**

REPRESENTATION RECEIVED

None received.

PARISH COUNCIL OBSERVATIONS

The committee recommends that MSDC grant permission.

INTRODUCTION

The application seeks planning permission for a proposed porch and a ground floor obscured glazed window.

RELEVANT PLANNING HISTORY

No relevant history.

SITE AND SURROUNDINGS

The application property is a semi-detached two storey dwelling located on the west side of Hurst Gardens, within the built-up area boundary of Hurstpierpoint.

The dwelling has a pitched roof and is constructed from brick with white horizontal cladding at first floor level, interlocking roof tiles and white uPVC fenestration. The dwelling has a single storey front protrusion across part of the frontage with a full width flat roof creating a canopy above the front door. The dwelling is set back from the highway with soft landscaping to the front and a detached garage to the south side. The locality is characterised by semi-detached dwellings of varying scale and design with a similar form.

APPLICATION DETAILS

The application seeks planning permission for a proposed porch and a ground floor obscured glazed window. The porch would have a width and depth of 2.40 metres and 0.65 metres. The porch will infill the gap where the existing flat roof canopy is and will use the existing flat roof which has a height of 2.40 metres. the porch will be constructed from brick to match the existing dwelling.

An obscure glazed window is to be installed on the south side of the dwelling at ground floor level to serve a ground floor toilet.

LEGAL FRAMEWORK AND LIST OF POLICIES

Planning legislation holds that the determination of a planning application shall be made in accordance with the Development Plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

Using this as the starting point the development plan for this part of Mid Sussex consists of the District Plan, Site Allocation Development Plan Document (DPD) and Hurstpierpoint and Sayers Common Neighbourhood Plan

National policy (which is contained in the National Planning Policy Framework and National Planning Policy Guidance) does not form part of the development plan, but is an important material consideration.

Mid Sussex District Plan

The District Plan was adopted at Full Council on 28th March 2018.

Relevant policies:

DP26 - Character and Design

Site Allocations DPD

The SADPD was adopted on 29th June 2022. It allocates sufficient housing and employment land to meet identified needs to 2031.

There are no relevant policies.

Hurstpierpoint and Sayers Common Neighbourhood Plan (made March 2015)

No relevant policies.

Other Legislation

Other Material Considerations

Mid Sussex District Plan 2021-2039 Consultation Draft

The District Council is reviewing and updating the District Plan. Upon adoption, the new District Plan 2021 - 2039 will replace the current District Plan 2014-2031 and its policies will have full weight. In accordance with the NPPF, Local Planning Authorities may give weight to relevant policies of the emerging plan according to the stage of preparation; the extent to which there are unresolved objections to the relevant policies; and the degree of consistency of the relevant policies in the emerging plan to the NPPF. The draft District Plan 2021-2039 (Regulation 19) is currently at Examination and hearings were concluded on the 19th March 2026. The District Plan remains at Examination until the Inspector has published his report, until that time only minimal weight can be given to the Plan and this planning application has been assessed against the policies of the adopted District Plan.

Relevant Policies:

DPS1 - Climate Change

DPS2 - Sustainable Design and Construction

DPB1 - Character and Design

Mid Sussex Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)

The Council has adopted a 'Mid Sussex Design Guide' SPD that aims to help deliver high quality development across the district that responds appropriately to its context and is inclusive and sustainable. The Design Guide was adopted by Council on 4th November 2020 as an SPD for use in the consideration and determination of planning applications. The SPD is a material consideration in the determination of planning applications.

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (December 2024)

Paragraphs 8, 11, 131 and 135 are considered to be relevant.

National Planning Policy Guidance

Ministerial Statement and Design Guide

ASSESSMENT

It is considered that the main issues that need to be considered in the determination of this application are as follows;

- Design and Character
- Impact on neighbouring properties
- Biodiversity Net Gain

Design and Character

Policy DP26 of the Mid Sussex District Plan states:

'All development and surrounding spaces, including alterations and extensions to existing buildings and replacement dwellings, will be well designed and reflect the distinctive character of the towns and villages while being sensitive to the countryside. All applicants will be required to demonstrate that development:

- is of high quality design and layout and includes appropriate landscaping and greenspace;*
- contributes positively to, and clearly defines, public and private realms and should normally be designed with active building frontages facing streets and public open spaces to animate and provide natural surveillance;*
- creates a sense of place while addressing the character and scale of the surrounding buildings and landscape;*
- protects open spaces, trees and gardens that contribute to the character of the area;*
- protects valued townscapes and the separate identity and character of towns and villages;*
- does not cause significant harm to the amenities of existing nearby residents and future occupants of new dwellings, including taking account of the impact on privacy, outlook, daylight and sunlight, and noise, air and light pollution (see Policy DP27);*
- creates a pedestrian-friendly layout that is safe, well connected, legible and accessible;*
- incorporates well integrated parking that does not dominate the street environment, particularly where high density housing is proposed;*
- positively addresses sustainability considerations in the layout and the building design;*
- take the opportunity to encourage community interaction by creating layouts with a strong neighbourhood focus/centre; larger (300+ unit) schemes will also normally be expected to incorporate a mixed use element;*
- optimises the potential of the site to accommodate development.'*

Principle DG49 of the Mid Sussex Design Guide states: *'Extensions should typically use simple, uncomplicated building forms to compliment and coordinate with the scale, form and massing of the original dwelling. The design approach may benefit from coordinating with the existing pattern of window and door openings as well as employing facing materials to match those of the existing dwelling. Otherwise it should demonstrate the appropriateness of the alternative approach.'*

Principle DG50 relates to front extensions and in part states: *'Front extensions are more likely to be acceptable where the building line is staggered or where the dwelling is set well back from the road. They are less likely to be acceptable in streets with a strong consistent building form as they risk disrupting the underlying order.'*

Where front extensions are considered acceptable, they should normally be limited to a modest single storey or porch-type extension that reflect the character of the existing property.'

The proposed porch extension is considered to be of a design, form and scale which would be proportionate and appropriate to the existing dwelling and the character of the area. The porch would be visible from the street scene but will be constructed from appropriate materials to match the existing dwelling.

The proposal is therefore considered to comply with policy DP26 of the District Plan and the relevant principles of the Mid Sussex Design Guide SPD.

Impact on neighbouring properties

Policy DP26 of the Mid Sussex District Plan seeks to ensure that development '*does not cause significant harm to the amenities of existing nearby residents and future occupants of new dwellings, including taking account of the impact on privacy, outlook, daylight and sunlight, and noise, air and light pollution (see Policy DP29);*'

The proposed porch is of modest size overlooking onto the street scene and will therefore not cause significant harm to neighbour amenity areas.

The window on the side elevation will face towards the application property garage and the street scene. The window is to be obscure glazed and will therefore not result in significant harm to neighbour amenities.

The proposal is therefore, considered to comply with the above-mentioned part of Policy DP26 of the Mid Sussex District Plan.

Biodiversity Net Gain

Biodiversity net gain is required under a statutory framework introduced by Schedule 7A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. This is a householder application within the meaning of article 2(1) of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015. As a householder application this development is exempt from the requirement to provide biodiversity net gain.

PLANNING BALANCE AND CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the proposal is considered to be acceptable in terms of design, scale and form and would not cause significant harm to the amenities of neighbouring properties. Therefore, the proposal complies with Mid Sussex District Plan policy DP26 and with the relevant provisions of the NPPF. The application therefore accords with the Development Plan and is considered acceptable.

Decision: Permission

Case Officer: Peter Davies