

Sarah Valentine

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 23 May 2025 15:07
To: planninginfo
Subject: Objection to DM/25/1129

[REDACTED]
Subject: Formal Objection to Planning Application – Foxhole Lane, Bolney

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing as a long-standing resident of **Bolney village** to express my **strong objection** to the proposed residential development on **Foxhole Lane**. This application poses a serious threat to the **environmental integrity, historical character, and safety** of our community and should be refused on the following grounds:

1. Unacceptable Increase in Traffic and Noise Pollution

Foxhole Lane and the surrounding roads are already **narrow, busy, and dangerous**, with limited visibility and no capacity for increased traffic. The proposed development would significantly worsen:

- **Traffic congestion**, especially during peak hours.
- **Noise pollution**, which already disrupts the peace of this rural area.
- **Risk to pedestrians and cyclists**, particularly children and elderly residents.

This directly contravenes **Policy DP21 (Transport)** of the Mid Sussex District Plan, which requires development to ensure safe and suitable access for all users.

2. Environmental Destruction and Loss of Biodiversity

The site is a **greenfield area** rich in wildlife and natural beauty. The development would result in:

- The **irreversible loss of habitat** for birds, bats, and other protected species.
- The destruction of **mature hedgerows and trees**, which are vital for biodiversity.
- Increased **air and light pollution**, further degrading the local ecosystem.

This is in direct conflict with **Policies DP37 (Trees, Woodland and Hedgerows)** and **DP38 (Biodiversity)**, which aim to protect and enhance the natural environment.

3. Loss of Historical and Cultural Heritage

Bolney is an **ancient village**, referenced in the **Domesday Book**, with a unique rural character that must be preserved. This development would:

- Erode the **historic identity** of the village.
 - Disrupt the **visual and cultural landscape** that has existed for centuries.
 - Undermine the principles of **heritage conservation** enshrined in national and local planning policy.
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4. Contradiction with Sustainable Development Principles

This proposal is **neither sustainable nor proportionate**. It fails to respect the scale of Bolney and would place unsustainable pressure on:

- Local infrastructure (roads, drainage, utilities).
- Public services (schools, healthcare).
- Community cohesion and quality of life.

It is inconsistent with **Policy DP6 (Settlement Hierarchy)** and the **Bolney Neighbourhood Plan**, which emphasize development that is appropriate in scale and character.

Conclusion:

This application represents a **serious and multifaceted threat** to Bolney's environment, safety, and heritage. It is not in line with the Mid Sussex District Plan or the wishes of the local community. I respectfully urge the Council to reject this application in full.


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Rh17 5PU