

From: planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk <planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk>
Sent: 07 July 2025 10:14:43 UTC+01:00
To: "Stefan Galyas" <stefan.galyas@midsussex.gov.uk>
Subject: Mid Sussex DC - Online Register - Comments for Planning Application
DM/25/1185

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

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

Comments were submitted at 07/07/2025 10:14 AM.

Application Summary

Address:	Tennis Courts At St Francis Sports And Social Club Colwell Road Haywards Heath West Sussex RH16 4EZ
Proposal:	Temporary (36 months) permission for change of use of existing tennis courts to padel courts and associated works.
Case Officer:	Stefan Galyas

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Address: 29 Park West Southdowns Park Haywards Heath

Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Neighbour or general public
Stance:	Customer objects to the Planning Application
Reasons for comment:	
Comments:	I write to formally object to planning application DM/25/1185 for the temporary (36-month) change of use from existing tennis courts to padel courts and associated works at St Francis Sports and Social Club, Colwell Road, Haywards Heath. The reason that I am objecting is principally that of noise. From my experience, when being played, Padel is a loud explosive game played by very enthusiastic players who will, as I would, be pretty vocal in either victory or defeat!

Not only is there verbal significant noise but also the ball on bad and ball on plastic surrounding screens is similar to gunfire. This is a reason that these facilities are usually located away from residential homes. For example the facilities at the Triangle Sports Centre, at the Haywards Heath Rugby Club and just off the A23 to the East of Warringlid are all either enclosed or are remote.

The south side of the Southdowns Park development is very quiet but is also like a bit of an amphitheatre, which will exaggerate the noise from the swimming pool area, and I believe that the noise generated by hard ball on the court structure will impact significantly on the tranquil nature of the site.

I do understand the benefit of developing and using this area, and would support a reinstatement to tennis courts for example. However, I'm sure that although this would provide the same health, fitness and social interaction for the local community, it would obviously not generate the same profit for the developer/operator.

On a secondary note I would ask that if permission is granted then it is made clear that Southdowns Park private car parks **MUST NOT** be used by players and that players should be made to utilise the pay and display car park to the east of the bowling club.

Kind regards