

From: planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk <planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk>
Sent: 20 June 2026 15:52:45 UTC+01:00
To: "Caroline Grist" <caroline.grist@midsussex.gov.uk>
Subject: Mid Sussex DC - Online Register - Comments for Planning Application
DM/26/1315

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

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

Comments were submitted at 20/06/2026 3:52 PM.

Application Summary

Address:	Land West Of Gatesmead Wickham Way Haywards Heath West Sussex
Proposal:	Proposed 49 new homes together with open space and associated infrastructure.
Case Officer:	Caroline Grist

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Address:	6 Birchen Lane Haywards Heath
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Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Neighbour or general public
Stance:	Customer objects to the Planning Application
Reasons for comment:	
Comments:	I object to DM/26/1315 - the development of 49 new homes on the fields off Old Wickham Lane, Haywards Heath for the following reasons: The unresolved status of DMMO 3/22 affecting the site. There has been an unresolved undetermined right of way for over four and a half years. Our family have used the footpath over the past 26 years, and any new housing development would have a significant impact on the enjoyment and accessibility of this area. The

planning application can't be decided until this has been resolved.

Eleven acres of open grassland would be destroyed along with the rich diversity of species that live in this unique area. We currently have nearby access from Birchen Oak to this open area and regularly enjoy walking and watching species of birds, insects and butterflies that frequent the open grassland.

Access via Gatesmead was never intended to have the volume of houses following the relatively recent Crest development of over 40 homes in Birchen Oak. This already causes congestion at the junction with Portsmouth Lane, especially at peak times. Further development of housing on Wickham Fields would significantly impact on the safe exit of Birchen Lane which could cause traffic accidents at the brow of the hill. Many pedestrians cross the lane which would render it a hazard, especially to children and the elderly or infirm. Construction traffic has in the past destroyed the integrity of the road surface in the first 80m of Birchen Lane. Further construction traffic due to this proposed development would be disastrous for the substructure of the road.

The proposed development would significantly harm the heritage assets and surrounding countryside. The open setting of the farmhouse and approach road will be destroyed. The tranquility and unique character of the lane will be ruined by building all the new houses.

Local schools, GP services and local infrastructure are already under extreme pressure. A further 49 homes would degrade this significantly. GP appointments are regularly over 6 weeks' waiting and the local A&E at The Princess Royal can barely cope with the volume of emergencies. Regular flooding in Gatesmead and Wickham Way are commonplace and further development would only exacerbate this.

For these reasons I strongly object to DM/26/1315 and want the application to be refused. Can the Planning Committee please seriously consider this?

Kind regards