

From: planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk <planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk>
Sent: 21 June 2026 14:37:05 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 21/06/2026 2:37 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: 45 Gatesmead Haywards Heath

Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Neighbour or general public
Stance:	Customer objects to the Planning Application
Reasons for comment:	
Comments:	I am writing to formally object to the planning application DM/26/1315. This application raises a variety of concerns for the immediate and wider neighbourhood. One of the key issues concerns a definitive map modification order (DMMO 3/22) which remains unresolved. This was filed by Haywards Heath town Council and Lindfield rural parish Council in

a joint application that was received by West Sussex County Council on the 15th of November 2021. As this has not been resolved, it brings into question whether the planning application can proceed on the basis that the legal status, position, alignment and width of the right of Way are not yet established.

My wife and I regularly use this route and surrounding paths and have done for the past eight years. It is widely used by the community and provides a Green space that is enjoyed for physical recreation but also for well-being purposes.

The designated area in the planning consisting of approximately 11 acres of grassland are under threat and residence have noted that protected species, such as the black red start and the slow worm have been evidenced using this area. Alongside that, it is Home to abundant wildlife including buzzards, sparrowhawks, red kites, Green and great spotted woodpeckers and owls, making this a diverse and unique area which has very little to compare with in the locality. Losing this environment would be detrimental to residence health and well-being as well as having a significant ecological impact. This area is used by hikers, dog walkers, cyclists, runners and other fitness enthusiasts alongside those who simply enjoy playing recreational games.

The proposed development would further increase vehicle traffic through an already congested residential road, which currently struggles with narrow passing points and is not designed to accommodate heavy goods vehicles. Both my wife and I have witnessed near Mrs with children playing in the area and vehicles using the roads and commercial vehicles already not respecting pedestrians and driving at excessive speeds, even with traffic calming in place. Adding a further 49 homes with 100+ car parking spaces would be to the detriment of the lifestyle and well-being of all residents currently living in Gatesmead and Alder way. There are two particular areas that cause concern for pedestrians including the single vehicle access points of the crest of Gatesmead and the tight bend that enters the newer development, both of which have resulted in near miss collisions. There is a children's playground which is cited close to the road and further traffic would be a health and safety issue for users of that amenity and add further noxious fumes. The children and residence would have to breathe in.

There is also a lack of local infrastructure to support this additional development, with local schools being oversubscribed. For example, the secondary school warden Park Academy is oversubscribed considerably on First choice applications. When we moved in to our house in 2018, we also encountered difficulty registering with a GP practice, and we unable to sign up to the most local GP as there were no new spaces available. No further expansion of GP services has occurred to accommodate the increased capacity required. Perhaps the most alarming aspect of

infrastructure concerns water consumption. In 2025 adding lie Reservoir reached its lowest capacity in years, going as low as 24% of capacity and there was concern About borehole and aquifer levels resulting in a prolonged hosepipe ban. With climate change projections, the Southeast of England is likely to experience more sustained periods of drought without additional reservoirs being constructed to accommodate the demand from new housing.

Finally, it is important to point out the impact to heritage assets such as Wickham farmhouse and Sunte House, it is important to note that the remnant countryside setting of both of these buildings forms part of why they are listed, and losing the surrounding countryside would irreparably damage the character of these buildings. Has residence we appreciate how the settings form part of the character of these two listed buildings.

I trust the above concerns will be Julie noted and raised as part of our considered objection.

Kind regards