

From: planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk <planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk>
Sent: 22 June 2026 11:10:12 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 22/06/2026 11:10 AM.

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:	7 The Sandlings Aldeburgh
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Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Neighbour or general public
Stance:	Customer objects to the Planning Application
Reasons for comment:	
Comments:	I write to express my profound objection to this proposed development (Land West of Gatesmead ["Wickham Field"]). In recent years, northern Haywards Heath has seen more than 300-odd houses built, including at Penland Green, Birchen Lane and Sunte House. Haywards Heath, like every other town in Southen England is necklaced by huge new housing estates - Lindfield to the East, Wivelsfield Green to the South and the colossal Burgess Hill 'Northern Arc' to the Southwest - running into thousands of new houses.

Is any of this matched proportionally by the provision of new doctors' surgeries, schools, reservoirs, roads, buses and trains, culture and leisure facilities?

At a practical level, another 49 houses will add perhaps another 100+ cars to already congested, polluting and dangerous roads, whether that's Portsmouth Lane, Oathall Road, Gander Hill/College Road, Sunte Avenue or Balcombe Road.

In another breath, Government would promote the countryside as essential to the environment and for people's health & wellbeing.

In the case of Wickham Field, whatever Crest Nicholson put in place by way of 'amenities', it's hard to see how that can compare with the value of a green field, ancient trees and a stream.

In past discussions, the point has also been made that Wickham Field represents a 'green corridor' which people can enjoy when accessing the High Weald trail. As former residents of Wickham Way, my wife and I would routinely observe a daily procession of walkers and, at weekends, families making their way up the road and onwards into the field, whether from the town itself or those coming from the station. Instead of green pasture, now all they will see is brown bricks.

So much of mid-Sussex countryside has already been turned into housing, despite the overwhelming wishes of local people.

Wickham Field is a truly beautiful piece of what remains, providing enormous benefit to both people and wildlife. Is Crest Nicholson really trying to argue that they cannot find alternative brownfield sites or poorer land to build on, rather than putting this beautiful field to the bulldozer?

Kind regards