

From: planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk <planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk>
Sent: 01 December 2025 22:39:57 UTC+00:00
To: "Irene Fletcher" <irene.fletcher@midsussex.gov.uk>
Subject: Mid Sussex DC - Online Register - Comments for Planning Application
DM/25/2903

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

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

Comments were submitted at 01/12/2025 10:39 PM.

Application Summary

Address:	28 Blackthorns Lindfield Haywards Heath West Sussex RH16 2AY
Proposal:	Oak Tree - Fell to ground level.
Case Officer:	Irene Fletcher

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Address:	26 Blackthorns Lindfield Haywards Heath
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Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Neighbour or general public
Stance:	Customer made comments in support of the Planning Application
Reasons for comment:	
Comments:	This oak tree is an important feature in Blackthorns and is located adjacent to the busy public footpath and road. It is also close to the side boundary of my front garden. The visual impact to the road of losing this tree would be significant, however I have noticed that the back of the crown is deteriorating, with increasing numbers of dead branches and dying foliage each year. When it was in full leaf, the front of the tree looked far more healthy than the back and the tree therefore looked unbalanced, with the majority of the weight of the crown overhanging the adjacent public footpath and road.

In October 2025 the owners had a crown reduction carried out to help the recovery and health of the tree which was said to be in poor condition. The current application form states that arborists have since concluded that the tree is dying due to root suffocation over many years and that there is hollowness in the trunk.

The back of the tree appears to be failing but I am concerned that this application form does not itself contain sufficient information or evidence to support the felling of this TPO tree now. The application form states that the tree is not diseased and is not going to fall down. Although hollowness has been detected in the trunk there is no explanation of the cause, significance or extent of the hollowness, nor of the condition of the surrounding trunk or of the crown of the tree, parts of which are clearly deteriorating. There is no mention of the risks to people and property should a tree in this location fall or lose limbs.

Nevertheless, I do realise that planning officers will have access to further information beyond that contained in the application form and I would support felling of the tree if the officers have sufficient evidence to grant this application. I have observed a significant deterioration in the tree and, given its high-risk location next to a very well-used public footpath and road, and approximately 12 metres from my house, if officers confirm that the tree is dying and is in danger of failure then I would support this application being granted due to the ongoing significant risk to people and property.

Kind regards