

Sarah Valentine

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 23 June 2025 14:50
To: planninginfo; Steve Ashdown
Subject: Planning Application DM/23/2866 and DM/23/2867

[REDACTED]

Good afternoon,

I am writing to formally object to the planning application DM/23/2866 and DM/23/2867 for the proposed redevelopment of land in Ansty.

I am truly sad that I am having to write this again so soon. It has been less than six months since I wrote a previous objection letter to you and sadly it seems that nothing has changed within that time frame and I cannot understand why they are allowed to re-apply again so soon without any changes or considerations as to why the plan was last rejected and it would seem to be mindlessly on repeat again every six months thereafter. In fact since the last application even more houses remain unsold in surrounding developments proving even more so that there is less of a want or need for this development.

This project seems to want to destroy the beautiful countryside and wildlife of Ansty for pure greed rather than genuine need and is unsustainable.

I have re-listed our previous objection points below, all still relevant a six months on. Sadly these developers don't seem to want to take no for an answer and it would be so very appreciated if the council planning committee could stay on the side of local residents who truly value this area and shut this development down again, hopefully permanently.

We object on the following grounds:

Environmental and Rural impact. This proposal has great impact on the rural character of Ansty and will be a huge intrusion in to the countryside destroying up to 100 hectares of stunning landscape and mature trees, urbanising the village. This proposed development will not only impact the appearance but also the biodiversity and wildlife population that is established and thriving in those fields and woodlands. On top of the devastation that 1450 new homes brings, it also faces the potential introduction of hundreds of pet cats and dogs furthering the significant impact on local wildlife and flora in the surrounding fields, hedges and trees. The reason we chose to move to Ansty was its beautiful landscape and rural feel all of which gives the area its charm and character nestled in between such busy surrounding towns. The need to have some green land between Haywards Heath and Burgess Hill is great and the drive down the Burgess Hill Road a beautiful one with rolling fields, far reaching views and mature woodland. It would be devastating if this were to be ruined not only now, but for generations to come. Has any account been taken for the rate of re-growth when replacing a large, mature, established tree for a tiny, fragile sapling elsewhere?

Sustainability. Alongside the devastating destruction of the area comes the practical impact on the local and existing residents that this will have. Building work will create huge amounts of excess surface water as the clay soils here are notorious and very hard to drain, with worrying flooding implications for the surrounding area and roads. There is also the fresh water supply that must be considered to over potentially 3000+ more people and the impact this will have on the local streams in the Mid Sussex catchment area as a whole which already struggles in the summer when the weather is dry and hot and supplies dwindle, something we have received fresh warnings about today from the water companies. The disruption to local residents will be significant and lengthy in many ways and the sustainability of the site questionable.

Traffic implications. Living on the Burgess Hill Road we know all too well how busy it is and this development will only make the situation much worse. The many more cars will make the road significantly busier, noisier and greatly increase the disturbance that we already have from the road, particularly in winter when leaves have dropped and headlights shine in. Rush hour getting in to Burgess Hill or Haywards Heath is already extremely busy and hugely backed up for people trying to get to work and do school runs, the last thing the area needs is more vehicles as well as Fairfax's proposed three new roundabouts and at least 3 signalised crossings, impacting journeys and traffic further.

Need? There are already 3 new build estates that are less than a mile and half away from this site, Bellway Fallow Wood, Abbeville Park and Faiways. All three of them still with many empty properties, surely this demonstrates that there is no need for this project at all. When you take in to account the wider development going on in Burgess Hill, Haywards Heath and surrounding areas where there are numerous other large new build estates such as Brookleigh, Folders Grove, Fairbridge Way, Kingsway, Keymer Tiles, Friars Oak and Ockley Park then it is clear that the need for green space over further development must be considered greater.

Having recently moved to the area we had absolutely no trouble in registering our children in school and our family with a local GP practise. We were also able to join The Triangle which is so close by and already providing a health hub and excellent sports facilities including all weather hockey facilities and tennis amongst many other options. The area is extremely well serviced coupled with the proposals for the regeneration of Burgess Hill underway and the Northern Arc development catering for extra schools and leisure/outdoor facilities there really is no need for this unnecessary development to destroy such a beautiful part of the Ansty and Cuckfield countryside. The new developers promise amenities but are under no obligation to provide them as most of these fall under the dependence of outside bodies.

It is with great hope that our points alongside those of the community as a whole will mean that planning will not be granted and this proposal denied again.

Yours Sincerely


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