

From: Emily Wade <Emily.Wade@midsussex.gov.uk>
Sent: 28 February 2025 12:12:05 UTC+00:00
To: "Katherine Williams" <Katherine.Williams@midsussex.gov.uk>
Subject: DM/25/0180 Wakehurst Place

Hi Katherine

Comments on the above planning application.

The proposal relates to portacabins located adjacent to the administration building at Wakehurst, within the settings of the Grade I listed mansion and II* listed stables building, and of the II* registered park and garden. Planning permission was granted for these in 2022 on a temporary basis, for the duration of refurbishment and upgrading works to the mansion house, in order to accommodate some of the activities normally taking place within the house including educational facilities for visiting schools. The applicant has now decided to relocate these facilities to the underused former farmhouse buildings at Havelock Farm, the former home farm to the estate. This will require securing planning permission to refurbish and/or alter the buildings with this purpose in mind, followed by carrying out of the works. The applicant estimates that the facilities will not therefore be ready for use until 2027. For this reason, they are seeking an extension to the temporary permission for the retention of the portacabins in their current arrangement for a further three years.

Whilst the portacabins are not a positive feature of the settings of the adjacent heritage assets, they are located in a utilitarian 'back of house' part of the estate, and are not unduly visually prominent. Their retention for a further three year period is not therefore considered contentious, particularly since establishing a beneficial long term use for the historic farm buildings at Havelock Farm is desirable.

The proposal is therefore considered to meet the requirements of District Plan Policies DP34 and DP36.

Thanks,

Emily

Please note that this advice is given at Officer level only and is without prejudice to the formal decision of the District Council.

Submit your planning application online.
<http://www.planningportal.gov.uk>

Emily Wade Ma MSc
Conservation Officer
Planning Services
Tel: +44 (0)1444 477385
emily.wade@midsussex.gov.uk <http://www.midsussex.gov.uk>

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