
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 29 December 2025 16:56
To: Jason.Hawkes; Planning
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FURTHER OBJECTION TO THE 'WEST OF IFIELD' PLANNING APPLICATION BY LANDLORD HOMES ENGLAND: IF THEY CAN CLOSE THIS [IFIELD GOLF CLUB], WHAT'S TO STOP THEM CLOSING THAT [IFIELD BARN THEATRE]?
Attachments: thumbnail - 2025-12-29T113255.892.jpg
Categories: Comments Received

FURTHER OBJECTION TO THE 'WEST OF IFIELD' PLANNING APPLICATION BY LANDLORD HOMES ENGLAND: IF THEY CAN CLOSE THIS [IFIELD GOLF CLUB], WHAT'S TO STOP THEM CLOSING THAT [IFIELD BARN THEATRE]?

Dear Jason Hawkes and Team

A poster now circulating locally poses a straightforward question: If they can close this [Ifield Golf Club], what's to stop them closing that [Ifield Barn Theatre]? It is not rhetorical. It goes to the heart of democratic planning and community protection.

The immediate concern is the impending closure of Ifield Golf Club in its centenary year, following its acquisition by [Homes England](#). But the wider issue is precedent. If a government landlord can close a long-established community asset before planning has been determined, and without clear, publicly tested justification, then ownership has quietly begun to trump democratic process. That principle should concern everyone who values community assets — sporting, cultural, or social. Once closure is treated as inevitable in advance of lawful decision-making, public trust is eroded and precedent is set. What is accepted once can be repeated elsewhere.

This is not an anti-housing argument. Housing need does not justify bypassing planning law or pre-empting outcomes. Democratic planning exists precisely to balance competing needs in the open, not to rubber-stamp decisions already set in motion.

That is why residents are calling calmly for a pause. On Monday 5 January, a peaceful parish walk will leave Ifield Village at 9.45am, passing Ifield Barn Theatre, to join a protest at Ifield Golf Club at 10.45am. The purpose is simple: to ask that the closure be paused, the decision paused, and democratic planning allowed to work properly — not just for one site, but for the protection of all community assets.

Yours sincerely

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IF THEY CAN CLOSE THIS...

WHAT'S TO STOP THEM CLOSING THAT?

— A Question for Every Community Asset in Ifield —



PAUSE THE CLOSURE
SAVE IFIELD GOLF CLUB

— **TODAY** —
Ifield Golf Club


Closed before planning is decided.



TOMORROW? 
IFIELD BARN THEATRE


A cultural asset
Protected only if precedent
is stopped.


WHY THIS MATTERS TO EVERYONE

 Government landlord can close
one community asset without good reason
or democratic process then every other **community**
asset it owns **is at risk**.

THE PRINCIPLE

 Ifield Golf Club

 Monday 5 January 2026 • 10.45am *Pause the closure.*

 Parish Walk from Ifield Village • 9.45am *Pause the decision.*

Protect every community asset.

This is a peaceful, lawful protest
Not anti-housing — pro-democracy
For Ifield. For culture. For community.

Land owned by Homes England, UK housing agency – not evitability.