

Sent:

03 January 2026 15:31

Subject:

'IFIELD PARK - GATWICK' - AN ALTERNATIVE VISION FOR WEST OF IFIELD

Attachments:

thumbnail - 2026-01-03T101437.994.jpg

Categories:

Comments Received

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GhST181a5KQ>

'IFIELD PARK - GATWICK' - AN ALTERNATIVE VISION FOR WEST OF IFIELD

'Dear BBC Team

Opposition to Homes England's West of Ifield planning application is not opposition to progress. It is opposition to the wrong solution in the wrong place, imposed through the wrong process.

An alternative vision proposed is the creation of 'Ifield Park – Gatwick': a strategically planned Local Nature Reserve and heritage landscape for the Upper Mole Valley, delivered through a Joint Area Action Plan (JAAP) involving, among others, Crawley Borough Council, Horsham District Council, West Sussex County Council and Gatwick Airport Limited.

This approach would only proceed if Horsham District Council rejects Homes England's application—or if it is withdrawn following ministerial intervention—and if Ifield Golf Club remains open. It would allow councils and statutory partners to plan positively and transparently, rather than react defensively to a speculative proposal.

The proposed Park boundary closely follows the publicly funded 1996 landscape framework "Ifield & Beyond – A Taste of the Sussex Countryside", jointly supported by CBC, HDC, WSCC and Gatwick. That document recognised, nearly three decades ago, the strategic value of this land as countryside, floodplain, habitat and heritage setting—not a housing allocation.

A JAAP-led Ifield Park – Gatwick would protect Ifield Brook Meadows, secure biodiversity net gain, safeguard water environments, respect aviation safety constraints, retain the Golf Club as a green buffer, and deliver genuine public benefit for Crawley, Horsham and the wider Gatwick sub-region. This is not a nostalgic plea to freeze time. It is a practical proposal to plan properly—democratically, collaboratively and lawfully—before irreversible harm is done to an ancient parish landscape.

Yours sincerely

The Ifield Society

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