
Sent:

02 October 2026 16:50

To:

Planning

Subject:

Comments for Planning Application DC/26/0954 - Land south of Athelstan Way

Categories:

Comments Received

From: 51 Gorings Mead

We wish to object to this planning application. We have read through the many letters of objection, and these have between them contained the relevant and compelling case against the application.

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Nearby local resident

Stance: Customer objects to the Planning Application

Reasons for comment: - Overdevelopment, loss of scenic beauty, wild life habitat, impact on current residents

Comments

- The character and appearance of the open rural area to the south of Horsham would be seriously harmed. The independent Planning Inspector who represents the Secretary of State had this to say about the Chesworth Farm area when Horsham District Council last attempted to invade the countryside here in 1997: *“there is a fundamental and overriding objection to the development of this site as proposed in the Local Plan. The seriously harmful impact of this proposed development on the character and appearance of the open rural area to the south of the town...”* Note the words “fundamental” and “overriding” – he is saying that it doesn’t matter what perceived benefits there might be from building 70 houses, the irreparable damage that would be caused far outweighs – and will always far outweigh – these perceived benefits. These comments don’t go away – they remain as valid now as they ever did.
- This is quoted above as the opinion of an independent outsider and expert who was clearly horrified at any notion of ruining what is clearly one of the most scenic and rural areas round Horsham. You are riding roughshod over these important and authoritative comments.
- The Council Assessment SA060 from June 2026 said that this land was not recommended for allocation for housing, supporting this view.
- The land should remain what it has been designated for so long – strategic gap. Any incursion into any of this land is to invite further development in the future.

- The efforts of hard-working volunteers, and the careful planning of conservationists would be seriously put at risk. The wildlife, some of it endangered species, that has been slowly attracted back to this area, would be in danger of being driven away by the disturbance of these new households. The land itself would almost inevitably be harmed by the closeness of so many new residents.
- The impact on current residents.
- The proposed houses would be clearly visible from the surrounding countryside and public rights of way, as well as existing residents of the houses in Athelstan Way, Weald Close, and Paget Close, which will be overlooked.
- Concerns about drainage.
- The site is a sensitive countryside edge, not simply an urban infill site.
- There are many very relevant objections and observations which have already been expressed, which we fully support, and it is clear that this application should be rejected.



- My concerns relate particularly to the impact that this development would have on the landscape character of the area, wildlife and biodiversity, and the experience of users of the surrounding countryside and public rights of way.

