

WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL CONSULTATION

TO:	Horsham District Council FAO:
FROM:	WSCC Highways - Public Rights of Way
DATE:	2 April 2026
LOCATION:	Land South Of The Bowling Green The Daisycroft Henfield West Sussex BN5 9RN
SUBJECT:	DC/26/0006 Erection of 9no. detached dwellings with associated parking, landscaping, hardstanding, access and associated works. Amended plan received.
DATE OF SITE VISIT:	n/a
RELEVANT PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY NUMBER(S):	Footpath 2547
RECOMMENDATION:	No Objection (With Conditions)
S106 CONTRIBUTION TOTAL:	n/a

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above numbered planning application. This proposal has been considered by means of a desktop study, using the information and plans submitted with this application, in conjunction with other available WSCC map information. In respect to the above planning application I would provide the following comments.

I understand this application to be for the erection of 9no. detached dwellings with associated parking, landscaping, hardstanding, access and associated works.

Having reviewed the amended plans, I note that the presence of Public Footpath 2547 has been acknowledged. I also note that the existing hedge located adjacent to the point where Public Footpath 2547 enters the grounds of Henfield Bowls Club is no longer proposed to be removed.

Subject to the conditions outlined below, I have no objection to this application.

The existence of a Public Right of Way (PROW) is a material consideration. Should planning consent be granted, the impact of development upon the public use, enjoyment and amenity of the PROW must be considered by the planning authority.

The granting of planning permission does not authorise obstruction of, interference to or moving of any Public Right of Way (PROW); this can only be done with the prior consent of West Sussex County Council (WSCC), as highway authority, and possibly also a legal Order process by (Horsham District Council) as the local planning authority. Further advice can be provided on request.

Safe and convenient public access is to be available at all times across the full width of the PROW, which may be wider than the available and used route – advice on the legal width can be provided by the WSCC PROW Team.

The path is not to be obstructed by vehicles, plant, scaffolding or the temporary storage of materials and / or chemicals during any works. These will constitute an offence of obstruction under the Highways Act 1980.

No new structures, such as gates and stiles, are to be installed within the width of the PROW without the prior consent of the WSCC PROW Team. These will constitute an offence of obstruction under the Highways Act 1980.

Any down pipes or soakaways associated with the development should discharge into an existing or new drainage system and away from the surface of the PROW. No drainage system is to be installed through the surface of the path without the prior consent of the WSCC PROW Team.

Where the ground levels adjacent to the PROW are to be raised above existing ground levels, this could increase the potential to flood the path. A suitable drainage system must be installed adjacent to the path to a specification agreed with the WSCC PROW Team prior to development commencing.

Any alteration to or replacement of the existing boundary with the PROW, or the erection of new fence lines, must be done in consultation with the WSCC PROW Team to ensure the legal width of the path is not reduced and there is no unlawful encroachment.

Access along a PROW by contractors' vehicles, deliveries or plant is only lawful if the applicant can prove it has a vehicular right; without this an offence under the Road Traffic Act 1988 section 34(1) is being committed.

The applicant is advised that a public access right has precedence over a private access right. Where a PROW runs along a route also used for private access purposes, usually for private vehicle access, this shared use has the potential for accident or injury – the applicant must consider how access is managed so the public is not endangered or inconvenienced.

It is an offence to damage the surface of a PROW without the prior consent of the WSCC PROW Team. The applicant must supply a specification and secure the approval of the WSCC PROW Team before works affecting the PROW begin, even if the surface is to be improved. Where a PROW surface is damaged and there was no prior consent, the applicant will be liable and required to make good the surface to a standard satisfactory to the WSCC PROW Team.

Where it is necessary to undertake works within the legal width of a PROW, e.g. install utilities, (or for development works immediately adjacent to a PROW that can not reasonably be managed through different Health and Safety practice) the applicant must be advised to apply to WSCC PROW Team for a temporary path closure. The applicant must be advised there is no guarantee an application will be approved; that a minimum of (6) weeks is needed to consider an application.



© Crown copyright and database rights 2025 OS AC0000849983. You are permitted to use this data solely to enable you to respond to, or interact with, the organisation that provided you with the data. You are not permitted to copy, sub-license, distribute or sell any of this data to third parties in any form.

Rights of Way information is not definitive.

**Abbie Smith
Access Ranger
Public Rights of Way
West Sussex County Council**