

APPLICATION NUMBER: WSCC/021/26
REGULATION 3

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE)
(ENGLAND) ORDER 2015**

To: Marty Abbott
Abbott Surveyors
No. 19
Bowmans Close
Steyping
BN44 3SR

In pursuance of their powers under the above mentioned Act and Orders, West Sussex County Council hereby notify you that they **PERMIT** the following development:

Redesign of hard play area, including replacement hardstanding, artificial grass turf and the installation of a gazebo and bike shelter at Heron Way County Primary School, Heron Way, West Sussex, Horsham, RH13 6DJ.

to be carried out in accordance with your application and plans (as modified by the under-mentioned conditions) submitted to this Council on 01/06/2026 and subject to the conditions specified hereunder:

Conditions

Commencement

1. The development to which this permission relates shall be begun not later than the expiration of 3 years from the date of this permission. Written notification of the date of commencement shall be sent to the County Planning Authority within 7 days of such commencement.

Reason: To comply with Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

Approved Plans

2. The development shall not take place other than in accordance with the approved plans:
 - Construction Management Plan – Dated June 2026;
 - Existing Site Plan – Drawing No. 1031/PL-502, Dated 11/06/2026;
 - Proposed Elevations – Drawing No. 1031/PL-503, Dated 12/06/2026, and;
 - Proposed Layout Plan – Drawing No. 1031/PL-501, Revision H, Dated 07/09/2026

Date: 23/09/2026

Signed: **Guy Bell**, Head of Highways Planned Delivery

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU READ THE NOTES IN APPENDIX A

CONTINUATION SHEET

along with information submitted with the application submitted with the application including the Design & Access Statement (Rev. D, Dated 07/09/2026) save as varied by the conditions hereafter.

Reason: to secure a satisfactory development.

Protection of Retained Trees

3. No retained tree shall be cut down, uprooted or destroyed without the prior written approval of the County Planning Authority. Works in relation to trees shall be carried out in accordance with the approved Proposed Layout Plan (Drawing No. 1031/PL-501, Revision H, Dated 07/09/2026) and Design and Access Statement (Rev. D, Dated 07/09/2026), in accordance with British Standard 3998:2010 Tree Work – Recommendations, or any subsequent revision and British Standard 5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations.

Reason: to protect existing trees in the interests of amenity and of the environment of the development.

Informative(s)

- A. The County Planning Authority has acted positively and proactively in determining the planning application by identifying issues of concern and considering whether planning conditions could be used to satisfactorily address them. As a result, the County Planning Authority has been able to grant planning permission, in accordance with the presumption in favour of sustainable development as set out within the National Planning Policy Framework.
- B. **Biodiversity Net Gain:** Paragraph 13 of Schedule 7A to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 states that planning permission is deemed to have been granted subject to the 'biodiversity gain condition', which means development granted by this notice must not begin unless: (a) a Biodiversity Gain Plan has been submitted to the planning authority, and (b) the planning authority has approved the plan.

Based on the information provided, this permission is considered to be one that will require the approval of a Biodiversity Gain Plan before development has commenced. This is because none of the statutory exemptions or transitional arrangements are considered to apply.

Guidance on the contents of a Biodiversity Gain Plan is available [online](#).

Commencing development that is subject to a biodiversity gain condition without an approved Biodiversity Gain Plan could result in enforcement action for breach of planning control.

APPENDIX A: TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

YOUR ATTENTION IS DIRECTED TO THE FOLLOWING NOTES.

THEY ARE FOR INFORMATION ONLY AND DO NOT PRETEND TO SET OUT THE WHOLE OF THE LAW ON THE SUBJECT. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOU CONSULT A SOLICITOR IF YOU ARE IN ANY DOUBT.

1 Appeals to the Secretary of State

- (a) If you are aggrieved by the decision of your local planning authority to refuse permission for the proposed development or to grant it subject to conditions, then you can appeal to the Secretary of State under section 78 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.
- (b) Appeals should be made online via [Appeal a planning decision](#). If someone does not have access to the internet and needs help completing the appeal digitally, they should contact the Planning Inspectorate customer service team on 0303 444 5000 who will provide details of support options available. Before making an appeal, you may find it helpful to review guidance and watch a video explaining the appeals process at [Make an appeal to the Planning Inspectorate and associated guidance](#).
- (c) The Secretary of State can allow a longer period for giving notice of an appeal but will not normally be prepared to use this power unless there are special circumstances which excuse the delay in giving notice of appeal.
- (d) The Secretary of State need not consider an appeal if it seems to the Secretary of State that the local planning authority could not have granted planning permission for the proposed development or could not have granted it without the conditions they imposed, having regard to the statutory requirements, to the provisions of any development order and to any directions given under a development order.
- (e) If you want to appeal against your local planning authority's decision then you must do so within 6 months of the date of this notice.

2 Purchase Notices

- (a) If either the local planning authority or the Secretary of State refuses permission to develop land or grants it subject to conditions, the owner may claim that he can neither put the land to a reasonably beneficial use in its existing state nor render the land capable of a reasonably beneficial use by the carrying out of any development which has been or would be permitted.
- (b) In these circumstances, the owner may serve a purchase notice on the District Council in whose area the land is situated. This notice will require the Council to purchase the owner's interest in the land in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 1 of Part VI of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

3 Biodiversity Net Gain

The effect of paragraph 13 of Schedule 7A to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 is that planning permission granted for the development of land in England is deemed to have been granted subject to the condition "(the biodiversity gain condition)" that development may not begin unless:

- (a) a Biodiversity Gain Plan has been submitted to the planning authority, and
- (b) the planning authority has approved the plan.

The planning authority, for the purposes of determining whether to approve a Biodiversity Gain Plan if one is required in respect of this permission would be West Sussex County Council.

There are statutory exemptions and transitional arrangements which mean that the biodiversity gain condition does not always apply. Details of these can be found in Government's Planning Practice Guidance on Biodiversity Net Gain available at the following link: www.gov.uk/guidance/biodiversity-net-gain.

Irreplaceable habitat

If the onsite habitat includes irreplaceable habitat (within the meaning of the Biodiversity Gain Requirements (Irreplaceable Habitat) Regulations 2024) there are additional requirements for the content and approval of Biodiversity Gain Plans.

The Biodiversity Gain Plan must include, in addition to information about steps taken or to be taken to minimise any adverse effect of the development on the habitat, information on arrangements for compensation for any impact the development has on the biodiversity of the irreplaceable habitat.

The planning authority can only approve a Biodiversity Gain Plan if satisfied that the adverse effect of the development on the biodiversity of the irreplaceable habitat is minimised and appropriate arrangements have been made for the purpose of compensating for any impact which do not include the use of biodiversity credits.

The effect of section 73D of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990

If planning permission is granted on an application made under section 73 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (application to develop land without compliance with conditions previously attached) and a Biodiversity Gain Plan was approved in relation to the previous planning permission ("the earlier Biodiversity Gain Plan") there are circumstances when the earlier Biodiversity Gain Plan is regarded as approved for the purpose of discharging the biodiversity gain condition subject to which the section 73 planning permission is granted.

Those circumstances are that the conditions subject to which the section 73 permission is granted:

- (i) do not affect the post-development value of the onsite habitat as specified in the earlier Biodiversity Gain Plan, and
- (ii) in the case of planning permission for a development where all or any part of the onsite habitat is irreplaceable habitat the conditions do not change the effect of the development on the biodiversity of that onsite habitat (including any arrangements made to compensate for any such effect) as specified in the earlier Biodiversity Gain Plan.

The effect of Paragraph 19 of Schedule 7A to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990

If the permission which has been granted has the effect of requiring or permitting the development to proceed in phases, the modifications in respect of the biodiversity gain condition which are set out in Part 2 of the Biodiversity Gain (Town and Country Planning) (Modifications and Amendments) (England) Regulations 2024 apply.

In summary: Biodiversity gain plans are required to be submitted to, and approved by, the planning authority before development may be begun (the overall plan), and before each phase of development may be begun (phase plans).