West Sussex County Council - Planning Consultation Response

To: Horsham District Council

Date: 9 November 2026

FAO:

From: WSCC - Highways Authority

LPA Reference: DISC/26/0364

Location: Millfields Farm Buildings, Horsham Road, Rusper, West Sussex

Proposal: Application for Approval of Details Reserved by Conditions 12,13,14,15,and 16 to approved application DC/24/0699.

Date of Site Visit: N/A

Recommendation: More information

DISC/26/0364

Please provide **more information** to support cyclists.

WSCC as the CHA has considered the proposal to provide a modal filter at the eastern end of the existing road from Millfield's Farm Cottage and Plot 21.

The applicant has provided plans and photographs of two lockable gates. One is wide enough for emergency vehicle access, and a 0.9m pedestrian gate.

WSCC has checked these dimensions, and it would be too narrow to allow a bike to pass through without having to get off and walk through. See table below.

Access Type	Minimum Clear Width	Notes
Walking a standard bike	**0.9m – 1.0m**	Comfortable for pushing a bike alongside you, though tight if the bike has wide handlebars or panniers.
Riding a standard bike	**1.2m – 1.5m**	A 1.2m pedestrian gate gives enough room to roll through slowly without risking your hands.
Public cycle paths or cargo bikes	**1.5m+**	UK cycle infrastructure guidelines (such as Wheels for Wellbeing) recommend at least 1.2m to 1.5m to accommodate adaptive cycles and cargo bikes.

Within the applications Design and Access statement this route was described as providing *'…cycle access along the existing road connecting to Horsham Road'*. Guidance taken from LTN 1/20 suggests:

Cycle routes must flow, feeling direct and logical... and…Schemes must be easy and comfortable to ride.

LTN 1/20 also suggests lockable bollards and creating a sense of place with planting or other street furniture can help to keep the space closed to traffic but open top cyclist and pedestrians.

Alison Meeus
West Sussex County Council – Planning Services (Highways)