Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Planning Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 22/03/2026 1:27 PM from [redacted]

Application Summary

Address:	Land North Of Camer Road Meopham Gravesend Kent
Proposal:	Outline planning application for up to 725 dwellings (Use Class C3), a new two-form entry primary school (Use Class F1), a Local Centre (up to 500sqm of Class E floorspace), the provision of Public Open Space including sport and recreation facilities alongside associated access, landscaping, parking, and infrastructure; with all matters reserved except for access.
Case Officer:	Mrs Katherine Parkin

Click for further information

Customer Details

Name:	[redacted]
Email:	[redacted]
Address:	[redacted] Church Lane West Malling

Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Member of the Public
Stance:	Customer objects to the Planning Application

Reasons for comment:

Comments:

Meopham and surrounding villages are relatively rural communities still and in threat of losing not only village and farmland identity but the host of protected and Nationally declining wildlife that inhabits the green belt land of Meopham.

Now is widely regarded as the time to act and give back to nature - not decimate critically important wildlife refuges that our villages and specifically open fields and woodland within them, provide.

The fields suggested for potential development provide a vital habitat for a range of species including Pipistrelle bats which use the fields abundantly as a feeding ground and the copse of woodland as a roost. Swifts and swallows following migration are abundant across these fields which provide critical, early invertebrate food following their migration from Africa. We have filmed significant numbers of swifts for weeks at a time across these fields - and can provide photographic and filmed evidence for these and multiple species that rely heavily on these rural sanctuaries.

Protected Skylarks breed and nest in these fields and can be seen still in

significant numbers. Considering their decline, we are very proud and excited to see this species doing so well in Meopham. Farms around Offham and West Malling have skylark nesting grounds specifically fenced off to deter disturbance which under the Wildlife and Countryside Act is a crime.

Both tawny owls and little owls hunt in the fields and I suspect utilise the central copse of woodland for nesting. More recently a pair of Hobbies can be seen on a regular basis throughout the Summer. Greater spotted wood- peckers nest in the woodland and young kestrels can be seen hunting across the fields in early summer. There are also several ravens utilising the Woodland and surrounding trees.

In terms of invertebrates, both stag beetles and glow worms are found in the fields with documented evidence. Glow worms in the field are due to be registered on the National Database.
Hummingbird hawk moths are also seen on the edge of the field and central copse opposite Norwood Lane feeding on dog rose.

For myself and many it is critically important that these areas and others like them are protected. They provide invaluable habitats and the kind of refuge that we are encouraging. Giving back to nature, providing the habitats needed for wildlife to thrive is more important than ever and a subject with significant National awareness.

Kind regards