

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

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

Comments were submitted at 22/02/2026 4:11 PM from [REDACTED]

Application Summary

Address:	Land North Of Cherry Trees Ridge Lane Meopham Gravesend Kent
Proposal:	Retrospective change of use for the siting of 4 pitches for Gypsy / Traveller occupation to include one static, one touring caravan and one amenity building on each pitch. Associated changes in land levels and hard / soft landscaping.
Case Officer:	Mrs Lisa Fisher

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:	[REDACTED]
Email:	[REDACTED]
Address:	[REDACTED] all saints rd Gravesend

Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Member of the Public
Stance:	Customer made comments in support of the Planning Application

Reasons for comment:

Comments:	Statement of Support I am writing to formally support this application. Having reviewed the proposal against the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), the Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (PPTS), and the Gravesham Local Plan Core Strategy, I believe there are compelling planning grounds for approval. 1. Unmet Need and Five-Year Supply Gravesham Borough Council currently has a significant, documented shortfall in the provision of Gypsy and Traveller pitches. The Council's own Five-Year Pitch Supply Statement confirms a requirement for at least 21 new pitches by 2029, yet there is currently zero deliverable land supply allocated to meet this. Under the PPTS, the lack of a five-year supply is a significant material consideration that weighs heavily in favor of granting temporary or permanent permission. 2. National Policy Alignment (PPTS 2024) The recent updates to the PPTS and NPPF have removed the restrictive "active traveler" definition. This site provides a settled base that allows the community to maintain their cultural identity while ensuring stable access to local education and healthcare-key objectives of national policy to improve outcomes for Traveller children. 3. Green Belt and Very Special Circumstances (VSC) While I acknowledge the site is within the Green Belt, the following factors constitute Very Special Circumstances under NPPF Paragraph 153: The acute and persistent failure of the Council to provide alternative, non-Green Belt sites.
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The personal housing needs of the families involved, for whom no other lawful sites are available.

The small-scale nature of the development (4 pitches), which limits the impact on the "openness" of the Green Belt compared to larger residential allocations.

4. Environmental and Design Considerations

The proposal aligns with Local Plan Policy CS19. By formalizing the use of this land, the Council can enforce landscaping conditions and native planting schemes that provide a Biodiversity Net Gain over the previous agricultural use. A managed site with proper drainage and amenity buildings is environmentally superior to the alternative of unmanaged, unauthorized encampments.

Conclusion

Given the critical lack of alternative sites and the clear alignment with updated national planning goals, I urge the Committee to approve this application to help meet the Borough's legal housing obligations.

Kind regards