

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Planning Admin](#)
Subject: Objection to Planning Application Ref. 20260141 – Land North of Cherry Trees, Ridge Lane, Meopham
Date: 08 June 2026 07:02:32

Caution: This email was sent from outside of the organisation. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender.

Dear Mrs Fisher,

I am writing to formally object to planning application reference [20260141](#), relating to the retrospective change of use of land north of Cherry Trees, Ridge Lane, Meopham, for the siting of four Gypsy/Traveller pitches, including static caravans, touring caravans and amenity buildings.

My objection is based on the following planning grounds:

1. Inappropriate Development in the Countryside

The site is located within a rural area of Meopham where development should be carefully controlled to protect the character, openness and appearance of the countryside. The introduction of four residential pitches, associated structures, hardstanding, access arrangements and landscaping represents a significant change in the use and appearance of the land which is out of keeping with the surrounding area.

2. Harm to the Character and Appearance of the Local Area

The proposed development would urbanise what is currently open countryside. The presence of static caravans, touring caravans, amenity buildings, fencing, vehicles and associated domestic paraphernalia would have a detrimental visual impact on the rural character of Ridge Lane and the surrounding landscape.

3. Highway and Road Safety Concerns

Ridge Lane is a narrow rural road with limited visibility in places and is already used by local residents, agricultural vehicles, walkers, cyclists and horse riders. The development is likely to generate additional vehicle movements which could adversely affect highway safety and increase traffic on roads that were not designed for a more intensive residential use.

4. Impact on Residential Amenity

The development has the potential to affect neighbouring residents through increased activity, vehicle movements, noise and disturbance. The cumulative impact of four separate pitches should be fully assessed before any permission is considered.

5. Community Safety and Security Concerns

The proposed development is situated close to a well-established residential community comprising family homes and local businesses. Many residents in the area are families and business owners who have chosen to live in Meopham because of its rural and peaceful character. The Council should carefully consider whether the scale and nature of the development is compatible with the surrounding area and whether it could adversely affect the amenity, security and confidence of existing residents and business owners.

6. Retrospective Nature of the Application

I am concerned that the application is retrospective and seeks permission for a use that has already been established. Granting permission in such circumstances may undermine confidence in the planning system and could encourage further unauthorised development in the area.

7. Pressure on Local Infrastructure and Services

The application should demonstrate that adequate arrangements are in place for drainage, waste disposal, utilities, access and other infrastructure requirements. Any shortcomings could place additional pressure on local services and have wider environmental impacts.

8. Precedent for Further Development

Approval of this application could create a precedent for further development within the surrounding countryside, leading to the gradual erosion of the rural character that residents value and that planning policies are intended to protect.

For the reasons outlined above, I respectfully request that Gravesham Borough Council refuses planning permission for this application.

Please confirm that this representation has been received and

recorded as an objection to planning application [20260141](#).

Yours faithfully,

