

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

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

Comments were submitted at 14/12/2025 11:12 AM from [REDACTED]

Application Summary

Address:	Land Adjacent To Longfield Road Meopham Gravesend Kent DA13 0EW
Proposal:	Outline application for the erection of up to 120 residential dwellings, public open space and associated works. Approval is sought for the principal means of vehicular access from Longfield Road and all other matters are reserved.
Case Officer:	Mrs Alison Webster

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:	[REDACTED]
Email:	[REDACTED]
Address:	[REDACTED] The Russets Meopham Gravesend Kent

Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Neighbour
Stance:	Customer objects to the Planning Application

Reasons for comment:

Comments:	<p>Objection to Outline Planning Application - Unsustainable Development Proposal</p> <p>I am writing as a local resident to formally object to the proposed development on the grounds that it is fundamentally unsustainable and poses serious concerns in terms of infrastructure, safety, environmental impact, and accessibility. My objections are outlined below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Access and building adjacent to Helen Allison School. This is a SEN school, the pupils of which are vulnerable and subject to significant sensitivities. This development will cause stress and sensory overload. The school is reliant on a calm, low noise environment and this will all negatively impact the wellbeing of the children.2. Unsuitable Location with Inadequate Access to Public Transport The proposed site is in excess of 20 minutes walking distance from Meopham train station. See also detailed comment below re: recent reduction in public transport services covering Meopham during the last 4 years. As a result, the only viable commuting transport option from the proposed location means using a motorcar on what is already a heavily congested road, and further increasing air pollution as well as CO2 emissions.3. Huge reduction in Meopham public transport availability and options in the last 4 years Public transport availability has reduced significantly within the last four years - following the recent withdrawal of the Arriva bus company, and its replacement with the Redroute bus operator, there are now no buses running after 6pm in the Gravesend to Meopham/Culverstone/Vigo direction, and after 6.30pm in the
-----------	---

Vigo/Culverstone/Meopham to Gravesend direction, on the 306/308 A227 bus route. In addition, the Kings Ferry London commuter coach service, which travelled through Vigo and Meopham, and on to London Docklands and Central London in the mornings, and returned in the evenings, and had operated for 40 years, sadly stopped running in December 2021 and the service has never restarted. As a result, the only viable commuting transport option from the proposed location to Gravesend means using a motorcar on what is already a heavily congested road, and further increasing air pollution as well as CO2 emissions.

4. Impact on Existing Congestion and Emergency Access

The A227 already experiences heavy congestion, particularly at the Longfield Road junction - an area frequently used by schoolchildren crossing to nearby schools. The scale of the proposed development would lead to a significant increase in local traffic volumes, compounding congestion and creating the potential for gridlock. This poses a critical risk in the event of emergency vehicles, such as ambulances, needing timely access to Darent Valley Hospital via this route. The construction of the Lower Thames Crossing has also just been approved and this will increase traffic using the A227.

5. Concerns raised by KCC Highways

I understand that KCC Highways have raised significant concerns over this planning application.

6. Construction Traffic and Long-Term Infrastructure Damage

The presence of heavy construction traffic along the A227 would not only worsen existing traffic conditions but also risk further structural damage to nearby buildings.

7. Environmental and Ecological Damage

This currently undeveloped area is used as a wildlife corridor by many animals, including hedgehogs. Any construction in this area would result in the destruction of vital habitats and directly contravenes national and local obligations to conserve biodiversity. This ecological loss would be irreversible.

8. Availability of Brownfield Sites for development

Gravesham has significant brownfield land and regeneration opportunities (in particular much of the Gravesham borough area north of the A2, including around Ebbsfleet) that should be prioritized over Green Belt release. National policy encourages brownfield development first, and this approach aligns with sustainable planning principles.

9. Loss of Agricultural Land

The proposed site is productive farmland, the destruction of which will reduce local food security and undermine sustainable land use.

10. Loss of Rural Character and Landscape

Meopham is a historic rural parish. This application is one of multiple planning applications being submitted contemporaneously within Meopham, which individually and collectively would erode its identity, effectively merging villages such as Sole Street, Meopham and Longfield. This directly conflicts with the Local Plan's objective to maintain settlement separation and protect countryside views.

11. Request for Accurate Traffic Assessment Timing

I would urge that any traffic impact assessments associated with this application be carried out during school term times, not during school holidays. Only then can an accurate and meaningful picture of local traffic patterns and road usage be obtained.

In summary, the development is poorly located, environmentally harmful, and will exacerbate already serious traffic and safety issues

Kind regards