

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

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

Comments were submitted at 08/06/2026 7:10 AM 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] Meadow Lane Culverstone

Comments Details

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

Reasons for comment:

Comments: I wish to formally object to Planning Application 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, amenity buildings and associated landscaping works.

This proposal represents a significant and inappropriate form of residential development within a rural countryside location and would have a harmful impact on the character, appearance and amenity of the local area.

The site lies within an area that is currently characterised by open countryside, low-density development and a rural landscape which contributes significantly to the character of Meopham. The introduction of four residential pitches, together with static caravans, touring caravans, amenity buildings, parking areas, access arrangements, fencing and associated domestic activity would fundamentally alter the appearance of the site and introduce an urbanising effect into an otherwise rural location.

The proposal would result in the permanent loss of open countryside and would be visually intrusive when viewed from surrounding roads and neighbouring properties. The cumulative impact of multiple pitches and associated structures would be wholly out of keeping with the established character of the area.

I also have serious concerns regarding the impact on highway safety. Ridge Lane

is a relatively narrow rural road which is regularly used by local residents, agricultural traffic, cyclists, walkers and horse riders. Visibility is limited in places and the road network is not designed to accommodate a substantial increase in residential traffic. The development would inevitably generate additional vehicle movements associated with residents, visitors, deliveries, contractors and service vehicles. This increased activity would adversely affect highway safety and the quiet nature of the area.

The application would also have an adverse impact on neighbouring residential amenity. Existing residents enjoy a peaceful rural environment and the proposed development has the potential to increase levels of noise, activity, vehicle movements and general disturbance. The cumulative effect of four separate pitches should be carefully considered, particularly given the proximity of neighbouring homes.

In addition, the site is located close to an established community consisting of family homes and local businesses. Residents have invested significantly in the area and value its rural setting, peaceful environment and strong community character. The Council should carefully consider whether this scale of development is appropriate in such a location and whether it is compatible with the existing pattern of development.

I am particularly concerned that this is a retrospective application. It appears that development has already taken place prior to the granting of planning permission. Allowing retrospective approval in these circumstances risks undermining confidence in the planning system and sends the wrong message to those who comply with planning regulations before commencing development.

The application should also demonstrate beyond doubt that adequate arrangements exist for drainage, foul water disposal, waste management, utilities and access. Given increasing concerns regarding flooding and surface water management across Kent, it is essential that the Council fully assesses the environmental implications of the proposal.

Furthermore, approval of this application may create an undesirable precedent for further development in the surrounding countryside. Incremental development of this nature has the potential to erode the rural character of Meopham over time and would be contrary to the objective of protecting the countryside from inappropriate and unsustainable development.

For all of the reasons set out above, I respectfully request that Gravesham Borough Council refuses planning permission for this application and gives significant weight to the concerns of local residents who wish to preserve the rural character, safety and amenity of the area.

I ask that this representation be formally recorded as an objection and taken fully into account when determining Planning Application 20260141.

Kind regards