

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

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

Comments were submitted at 17/03/2026 8:47 PM from [REDACTED]

Application Summary

Address:	The Woodlands 217 Wrotham Road Gravesend Kent
Proposal:	Alterations to existing restaurant, including alterations to elevations, additional works to accommodate plant, new corral and bin store, demolition of existing single storey side extension with erection of new single storey side extension, minor external work to existing parking bays, creation of patio and other associated work.
Case Officer:	Mrs Lisa Fisher

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:	[REDACTED]
Email:	[REDACTED]
Address:	[REDACTED] Dennis Road Gravesend

Comments Details

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

Reasons for comment:

Comments: I am writing to formally object to the proposed development of a McDonald's restaurant on Wrotham Road, Gravesend. While I recognise the need for local business growth, this particular location is wholly unsuitable for a fast food drive through, and I urge the Council to reject the application on the following grounds:

1. Proximity to a Secondary School - Increased Health and Safeguarding Risks

The proposed site is extremely close to a secondary school. Installing a fastfood outlet of this scale directly on a school route raises several concerns:

- Encouragement of unhealthy eating habits among young people, contradicting national and local public health strategies.
- Increased footfall of unsupervised students, creating potential safeguarding issues.
- Congregation of large groups of teenagers before and after school, which may lead to antisocial behaviour or nuisance for nearby residents.

Local authorities across the UK have increasingly restricted fastfood outlets near schools for these very reasons. Approving this application would run counter to that trend and to the wellbeing of local children.

2. Traffic Impact on an Already Congested Main Road

Wrotham Road is already a heavily used route, particularly during school drop off and pickup times. Adding a McDonald's-especially one with a drive through-would significantly worsen:

- Traffic congestion, particularly at peak times
- Queueing onto the main road, creating safety hazards
- Delays for emergency vehicles, buses, and local residents
- Increased risk of accidents, especially with young pedestrians crossing the road

The road infrastructure is not designed to absorb the additional volume of vehicles a McDonald's typically attracts.

3. Noise, Litter, and Environmental Impact

Fast food outlets inevitably generate:

- Litter, which would affect nearby homes, school grounds, and public spaces
- Noise pollution from cars, late night customers, and delivery drivers
- Odours from cooking and waste storage
- Increased vermin, particularly in residential areas

Local residents should not be expected to shoulder these environmental consequences.

4. Negative Impact on Local Character and Residential Amenity

Wrotham Road is a mixed residential area with a strong community identity. A 24hour or late opening fastfood chain would:

- Disrupt the quiet residential character
- Reduce the quality of life for nearby households
- Increase late night disturbances and traffic movements

This development is incompatible with the surrounding environment.

For the reasons outlined-public health concerns, safeguarding risks, traffic congestion, environmental impact, and harm to residential amenity-I strongly urge the Council to refuse this planning application.

Kind regards