

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

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

Comments were submitted at 20/02/2026 11:15 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] Wilsons Way Meopham Gravesend Kent

Comments Details

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

Reasons for comment:

Comments: I object to this application on the grounds that the proposal conflicts with the Development Plan and national policy, including the National Planning Policy Framework and Planning Policy for Traveller Sites.

1. Inappropriate Development in the Green Belt

The proposal represents a material change of use from open land to a permanent residential caravan site comprising multiple pitches, caravans, amenity buildings and associated domestic infrastructure.

Under national policy, traveller sites in the Green Belt constitute inappropriate development and are harmful by definition.

The site does not fall within any of the limited exceptions and therefore conflicts with Green Belt policy.

2. Harm to Openness

The number of pitches and associated development would introduce substantial built form including:

- Static caravans
- Touring caravans

- Amenity buildings
- Hardstanding and parking
- Domestic paraphernalia

Openness is spatial, not visual. Screening and landscaping cannot mitigate the physical presence and intensity of residential occupation.

Substantial weight must therefore be given to this harm.

3. Encroachment into the Countryside & Urbanisation

The site is in a rural area outside any settlement boundary. Nor is it in an area that GBC are looking to amend green belt boundaries.

The introduction of permanent residential occupation would domesticate the land, introducing lighting, activity, storage, and curtilage. This represents encroachment into the countryside and conflicts with the fundamental purpose of Green Belt designation - preventing urban sprawl and safeguarding the countryside from encroachment.

4. Conflict with Gravesham Local Plan

The proposal conflicts with the Gravesham Local Plan Core Strategy, including policies protecting the openness and permanence of the Green Belt and restricting isolated residential development in the countryside.

The development would fundamentally alter the character of the rural area and undermine the spatial strategy directing development to sustainable locations.

5. Absence of Very Special Circumstances

No very special circumstances have been demonstrated that clearly outweigh the harm to the Green Belt.

Personal need or general demand for traveller accommodation does not outweigh definitional harm, loss of openness and encroachment, particularly where alternative non-Green Belt sites should be considered through the plan-led process.

Conclusion

The proposal constitutes inappropriate development in the Green Belt resulting in loss of openness and encroachment into the countryside, conflicts with the Gravesham Local Plan and national policy, and fails to demonstrate very special circumstances.

The application should therefore be refused.

Kind regards