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Comments for Planning Application AWDM/0737/26

1 message

planning@adur-worthing.gov.uk <planning@adur-worthing.gov.uk>
To: support.planning@adur-worthing.gov.uk

11 July 2026 at 16:11

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

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

Comments were submitted at 11/07/2026 4:11 PM from Ms Erica Evans.

Application Summary

Address:	Land South East Corner Of Amberley Drive Marine Drive Worthing West Sussex
Proposal:	Commercial use of regenerated land, including use as a community green space for recreational and leisure use. Retention of land for biodiversity use. Bore hole for extraction of natural water. Use of land to produce natural green energy, for example solar. Provision of vehicle parking use (including overnight camping use for kite surfers and sea swimmers), 2 x 6m flag poles, provision of food and drink from temporary structures, mobile toilets, shower and baby changing facilities. Two recessed shipping containers for site storage and use. Tree shaded sandpit and tumble-down mound for young children and toddlers to use. Animals to use for entertainment purposes, for example Shetland ponies. A decorative flowerpot boat at site entrance. Bin storage use. A wheeled advertising trailer, measuring approx. 5 metres by 2.5 metres located within the site boundary to promote Worthing, local events and tourism.
Case Officer:	Gary Peck

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Customer Details

Name:	Ms Erica Evans
Email:	
Address:	7 Sea Drive Ferring

Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Neighbour
Stance:	Customer objects to the Planning Application
Reasons for comment:	- Design - Highway Access and Parking - Loss of General Amenity - Other - Overdevelopment - Privacy Light and Noise - Trees and Landscaping
Comments:	I strongly object to application AWDM/0737/26 for these reasons: As designated in Worthing's Local Plan as a Local Green Space and Local Green Gap, the site in question has protection consistent with areas of Green Belt. Green Belt policy is intended to prevent urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open, and any development within the Green Belt should only be permitted in very special circumstances - of which these are not.

It is quite clear the development and activities proposed are purely to create financial gain for the landowner and, as well as being entirely unnecessary, will contribute nothing positive to the local community. Toilets (free), trees and sand (in abundance), on-street parking (free), green space, and vans, cafes and pubs selling refreshments are already available close by and used by the local community and visitors. The proposed development will be detrimental to established, trusted and responsible local businesses (cafes, Ferring Country Centre, pubs).

Car parks, camping areas, food and drink vending structures, toilets/shower blocks, shipping container storage, an advertising trailer, bin areas and flag poles will block the view up to the downs from the gap and reduce the gap's green credentials and pleasant atmosphere. A decorative flowerpot boat will do little to offset how unsightly and congested this land will become. The noise and light pollution created would be upsetting for residents and wildlife alike, as well as to visitors who come to the area for its calm, relaxing atmosphere. The site will not be a community green space, but a commercial eyesore.

The site is already selling alcohol if signs outside it are correct, and this poses questions about the risk of alcohol being sold at a beach-side venue where there is no lifeguard and currents are known to be strong.

Kite surfers will need to cross the road with their equipment which will be increasingly busy and dangerous from higher traffic levels. It is not a safe place for water sport enthusiasts to park. The grassy area by the beach, however, is perfect.

With regards to the comment that the land will be retained for 'biodiversity use', none of the proposals in the application support biodiversity, there is no ecological assessment attached, and no mention of how biodiversity will be encouraged or even maintained. Many of the activities proposed are in opposition to nature: increased traffic, inevitable litter, noise pollution, green space reduction, light pollution, and bore hole creation which is highly disruptive. Solar panels, while providing green energy (presumed to be used solely by the landowner so not of benefit to the community) do nothing to support biodiversity as they shade out the flora underneath. The bore hole water could be contaminated by the sprays used by the farmer on the wheat fields, and it will deplete the local water table. Local foxes will enjoy the sandpit area however, undoubtedly using it as a toilet. Similarly, gulls, rats and foxes will have a field day at the bin area if it is open or overflows, causing troublesome behaviour and resulting in the increase of unpleasant mitigations such as poison bait, rat shooting, and bird control spikes in the local area. All this will cause biodiversity loss in an area where it is supposed to be maintained.

I am appalled at the addition in the proposal for animals used for entertainment purposes, again clearly just for the landowner's financial gain - there is no community need for pony rides on Goring Gap, the Ferring Country Centre is a few minutes' drive away. This demonstrates the applicants lack of consideration of the site's suitability for ponies and their requirements. It is likely that animal abuse/neglect would occur if this element of the application went ahead and was not overseen properly.

My biggest concern, however, is the applicant's disregard for the beautiful local area, the community, the council, and the procedures in place regarding land use. They have already put a car park, food and alcohol vending, advertising trailers, horse box and toilets on the land, so it is already being used for commercial purposes without proper consultation and permits, and will be unregulated. This disrespectful and arrogant attitude and irresponsible mode of operation bode very badly for any further developments and activities carried out by this individual on the land and I am surprised it has been tolerated by the council.

Kind regards