

From: **David Bingham-Mee**

Date: Thu, 2 Apr 2026 at 09:24

Subject: Application AWDm/0291/26

To: <gary.peck@adur-worthing.gov.uk>

Good morning Mr. Peck,

In support of the above application and more specifically an on-site cafe provision.

A café at Hill Barn would provide far more than simply refreshments. It would create a welcoming community hub for parents, grandparents, siblings, visiting teams, dog walkers and local residents using the wider park. It gives people somewhere warm, safe and social to meet, whilst children are training or playing, helping to create a stronger sense of community around the site as a whole.

Importantly, this is not a commercial, profit-driven venture. Any income generated by the café would go directly back into the club and the facilities at Hill Barn. That means better pitches, better maintenance, improved changing areas, safer environments, better equipment and more opportunities for local children and young people to participate in grassroots football.

Grassroots football clubs play a huge role in keeping young people active, engaged and connected. A stronger, more financially sustainable Worthing United benefits not only those directly involved with the club, but the wider Worthing area too. The café would help provide a long-term, cyclical source of income that can continually be reinvested into boys', girls' and disability football, coaching, volunteering opportunities and community events.

The wider development at Hill Barn should be viewed as an investment into the community. Improving facilities and creating a family-friendly environment encourages more people to use the park responsibly, supports local health and wellbeing, and helps ensure Hill Barn remains a vibrant, positive space for years to come.

Ultimately, a non-profit café supporting grassroots football is a positive for everyone. It strengthens the club, improves the facilities, supports young people and families, and ensures that any success achieved is recycled back into the local community rather than leaving it.

Best Wishes

David Bingham-Mee