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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

12 July 2026 at 13:20

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

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

Comments were submitted at 12/07/2026 1:20 PM from Ms Mary Childs.

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

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:	Ms Mary Childs
Email:	
Address:	2 St Helier Court Ferring

Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Member of the Public
Stance:	Customer objects to the Planning Application
Reasons for comment:	- Highway Access and Parking - Loss of General Amenity - Other - Overdevelopment - Privacy Light and Noise - Trees and Landscaping
Comments:	Objection to Planning Application AWDM/0737/26 I grew up in nearby Lancing and have lived in Ferring for over twenty-three years, so I have known the Goring-Ferring Gap for most of my life. I wish to object to planning application AWDM/0737/26 and respectfully ask the Council to refuse planning permission.

The Goring-Ferring Gap already has a purpose. It is an open landscape separating neighbouring communities, supporting wildlife and providing a quiet stretch of coast where people can experience nature. That is why it has been protected through planning policy and previous planning decisions for many decades.

Please consider this proposal as a whole rather than as a series of individual features. It includes commercial use of the land together with parking for up to 150 vehicles, overnight camping, food and drink outlets, toilets, showers, shipping containers, advertising, children's play equipment, entertainment, flagpoles and other infrastructure. The question is not whether each element appears acceptable on its own. The question is whether the cumulative impact of all these uses would preserve the openness, tranquillity and character that planning policy has consistently sought to protect. In my view, it would not.

People come here because it is quiet. Over more than twenty-three years I have watched this landscape through every season, and it has never needed anything more than its own wildlife, open space and quiet character to bring people here. Walkers, families, birdwatchers, swimmers, horse riders, kite surfers and local residents already enjoy this landscape without the need for commercial attractions. Nearby Goring and Worthing already provide cafés, restaurants, shops and other visitor facilities for those who want them. The purpose of the Gap is different. It provides something those centres cannot: open countryside meeting the sea, space, quiet and an opportunity to experience the natural environment.

This proposal would introduce commercial activity that is incompatible with the existing character of the site. It would change not only what is placed on the land, but also how the land is used. That change concerns me far more than any single feature within the application.

The Gap is also a place where people can learn. Information boards explain the local wildlife and habitats, and the restored wartime pillbox helps tell the story of this stretch of coast. People of all ages can discover birds, insects, plants and the changing seasons simply by spending time there. These are experiences that come from the landscape itself.

I would also like to explain why this place matters so much to me. I am disabled and have not been able to drive for the past seven years, so the Goring-Ferring Gap is one of the very few substantial areas of open countryside that I can reach independently. I am also particularly sensitive to noise, which was one of the reasons I chose to live in Ferring. I understand that planning decisions must be made in the wider public interest, not on individual circumstances, but my own situation shows how important accessible, peaceful green spaces are for disabled residents and others who cannot simply travel elsewhere if their local environment is changed.

The area is already busy during the summer. Parking is often difficult and litter unfortunately increases despite the efforts of local volunteers and the Council. Introducing further commercial uses is likely to add to those existing pressures.

The Goring-Ferring Gap has been protected because successive generations recognised that once an open landscape is incrementally commercialised, it is impossible to restore its original character. The question is not whether each individual element of this proposal appears acceptable in isolation. It is whether, taken together, they preserve the openness, tranquillity and character that planning policy has consistently sought to protect. In my view, they do not.

For these reasons, I respectfully ask the Council to refuse this application.

The Goring-Ferring Gap is not a blank canvas waiting for entertainment. Nature is the experience.

Thank you

Mary Childs

Kind regards