

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 - APPEAL UNDER SECTION 78

Site Address:

Land at Bird in Eye Farm, South of Bird In Eye Hill, Framfield, Uckfield, TN22 5HA

Planning Application: WD/2024/1799/MAO

Appeal Reference: APP/C1435/W/24/3356658

Following the commencement of the appeal process in December 2024, the appellant, Croudace Homes Ltd, has now submitted what is known as a "Wheatcroft application." This refers to a revised planning application where the amendments are so substantial that the proposal is considered, in effect, to be materially different from the original. Such changes normally require re-notification and, where necessary, further public consultation.

As previously noted, this application was initially appealed on grounds of non-determination. At the time, Wealden District Council had not registered the application, considering it to fall outside the scope of validation. However, despite this earlier position, the Planning Inspectorate is now proceeding with the appeal and has deemed the revised (Wheatcroft) application valid. As a result, the applicant has submitted a new set of plans and supporting documentation as part of their revised proposal.

Framfield Parish Council remains deeply frustrated by the lack of meaningful consultation throughout the history of this application. The level of disregard shown towards both the Parish Council and the local community is nothing short of appalling. Despite the long timelines usually associated with planning appeals, we have now been given just **two weeks** to review and respond to what is, for all intents and purposes, a brand-new application. This truncated timescale is deeply undemocratic and places an unreasonable burden on the community, who are left with very little opportunity to understand or challenge the revised plans.

We strongly urge residents to examine the new documentation and submit their comments to the Planning Inspectorate. Representations can be made via their online portal or by post. Please ensure the appeal reference **APP/C1435/W/24/3356658** is clearly stated in your response.

Framfield Parish Council will also be reviewing the revised application and submitting formal representations. We maintain our strong objection to this development, consistent with our previous submissions. That this process has unfolded in such a disjointed and unjust manner—particularly in relation to the largest development ever proposed within our parish—is, frankly, astonishing and unacceptable.

We will publish our comments and any updates as soon as possible.

With Best Regards, Framfield Parish Council

All relevant documents can be viewed online via Wealden District Council's planning portal at: <https://planning.wealden.gov.uk> (search for application reference WD/2024/1799/MAO).

Alternatively, documents may be inspected by appointment at the Council Offices, Vicarage Lane, Hailsham, BN27 2AX. To arrange an appointment, please contact 01892 602510.

The Planning Inspector is now inviting further comments in light of the revised submission. We encourage all residents to make their voices heard.

Representations can be submitted via the Planning Inspectorate's online portal at: <https://acp.planninginspectorate.gov.uk>

All representations must be received by **26 May 2025**. If you do not have internet access, you may submit your comments in writing to:

Robert Wordsworth
c/o The Inquiries and Major Casework Team
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Bristol
BS1 6PN