

DECISION DELEGATED TO HEAD OF PLANNING

Application No: H02-0758-24 **Applicant:** Mr R East

Proposal: Proposed extensions to front and rear of dwelling

Location: Threeways French Drove Crowland

Terminal Date: 1st November 2024

Planning Policies

South East Lincolnshire Local Plan - Adopted: March 2019

01 Spatial Strategy
02 Development Management
03 Design of New Development
36 Vehicle and Cycle Parking
APPENDIX 6 Parking Standards

National Guidance

National Planning Policy Framework 2023

Section 9 - Promoting sustainable transport
Section 12 - Achieving well designed and beautiful place

Representations:

	Object	Support	No Obj.	Comments
PARISH COUNCIL	0	1	0	0
WARD MEMBER	0	0	0	0
HIGHWAYS & SUDS SUPPORT	0	0	0	1
NORTH LEVEL INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD	0	0	0	1
OTHER STATUTORY BODIES	0	0	0	1

CASE OFFICER ASSESSMENT

Proposal

This is a householder application seeking permission for extensions to the front and rear of Threeways, French Drove.

The proposed rear extension would provide a kitchen, dining and sitting room, projecting from the rear of the host dwelling by approximately 9.7metres. This extension would replace an existing rear projection that runs along the boundary of the site.

The proposed front extension would provide a 3.3m, projection, providing an additional en-suite and cloakroom.

Site Description

The site is located to the South East of Crowland and is outside of the main settlement but is still within a defined settlement boundary as outlined in the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan, 2019 (SELLP).

The site lies on a corner plot, comprising French Drove and Crowland Road (B1040). The site comprises a detached bungalow.

History

No relevant site history.

Consultation Responses

Crowland Parish Council

CPC after review and discussion no comments - support.

North Level Internal Drainage Board

North Level District Internal Drainage Board have no objections to the above planning application.

Lincolnshire County Council Highways Authority

Recommendation:

No Objections

Having given due regard to the appropriate local and national planning policy guidance (in particular the National Planning Policy Framework), Lincolnshire County Council (as Highway Authority and Lead Local Flood Authority) has concluded that the proposed development would not be expected to have an unacceptable impact upon highway safety or a severe residual cumulative impact upon the local highway network or increase surface water flood risk and therefore does not wish to object to this planning application.

Comments:

The proposal is for extensions to front and rear of dwelling. The Property will remain a 2 bed with the proposal. There is enough space for cars to enter and leave in a forward gear in addition to adequate parking spaces for the size of dwelling. The proposal will not have an adverse impact on the public highway. As Lead Local Flood Authority, Lincolnshire County Council is required to provide a statutory planning consultation response with regard to drainage and surface water flood risk on all Major applications. This application is classified as a Minor Application and it is therefore the duty of the Local Planning Authority to consider the surface water flood risk and drainage proposals for this planning application.

Peterborough City Council

Having reviewed the plans, Peterborough City Council has no comment to make at this time.

Key Planning Considerations

The main issues and considerations in this case are (but are not limited to):

- Principle of Development and Sustainability
- Layout, Design, and Impact on the Character of the Area
- Impact on Neighbouring Residents/Land Users/Land Uses
- Highway Safety and Parking

Evaluation

Section 38 (6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, as amended, requires that the Local Planning Authority makes decisions in accordance with the adopted Development Plan, unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

In this case, the adopted South East Lincolnshire Local Plan 2011-2036, adopted March 2019, forms the development plan for the District, and is the basis for decision making in South Holland. The relevant development plan policies are detailed within the report above.

The policies and provisions set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (December 2023) are also a material consideration in the determination of planning applications, alongside adopted Supplementary Planning Documents.

Planning Considerations

Principle of Development and Sustainability

The South East Lincolnshire Local Plan (2019) sets out the settlement hierarchy in respect of delivering sustainable development that meets the social and economic needs of the area whilst protecting and enhancing the environment; in order to provide enough choice of land for housing to satisfy local housing need, whilst making more sustainable use of land and to minimise the loss of high-quality agricultural land by developing in sustainable locations and at appropriate densities.

Policy 1 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan (2019) sets out a spatial strategy for delivering sustainable development across South East Lincolnshire to 2036. Policy 1 (Spatial Strategy) expresses this sustainable framework of settlements, ranking the settlements deemed to be most sustainable in descending order.

Policy 1 (Spatial Strategy) of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan (2019) indicates that within Main Service Centres, development will be permitted that supports their role as a service centre for the settlement itself, helps sustain existing facilities or helps meet the service needs of other local communities.

The application site in this instance is located to the South East of the main settlement of Crowland. Regardless of such, the proposal solely relates to the extension of an existing and established residential dwelling and therefore, the principle of such development is considered to be appropriate, comprising an appropriate form of development for the location.

As such, the proposal is considered to be acceptable with the requirements of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan (2019) when viewed in principle. This is subject to the assessment against site specific criteria; including (but are not limited to) the impact of the proposal on the character or appearance of the area, impact on the residential amenities of neighbouring occupiers, and impact on highway safety, which are discussed in turn as follows.

Layout, Design and Consideration of the Character and Appearance of the Area

Section 12 of the National Planning Policy Framework (December 2023) specifically relates to 'Achieving well-designed and beautiful places' and details that the "creation of high quality, beautiful and sustainable buildings and places is fundamental to what the planning and development process should achieve" and as such, it is generally accepted that good design plays a key role towards sustainable development.

Paragraph 135, contained within Section 12 of the National Planning Policy Framework (December 2023), states that new development should function well and add to the overall quality of the area (including beyond the short term) and should be visually attractive as a result of good architecture and appropriate landscaping. This goes on to establish that it is important that new development should be of the highest quality to enhance and reinforce good design characteristics, and that decisions must have regard towards the impact that the proposed development would have on local character and history, including the surrounding built environment and landscape setting such as topography, street patterns, building lines, boundary treatment and through scale and massing.

Development proposals should also ensure that developments create places that are safe, inclusive and accessible and which promote health and well-being, with a high standard of amenity for existing and future users, among other considerations.

Likewise, Policy 2 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan outlines sustainable development considerations for development proposals, providing a framework for an operational policy to be used in assessing the sustainable development attributes of all development proposals. Furthermore, Policy 3 accords with the provisions of Section 12 of the National Planning Policy Framework, in that it requires development to comprise good design; identifying issues that should be considered when preparing schemes so that development sits comfortably with, and adds positively to, its historically-designated or undesignated townscape or landscape surroundings.

These policies accord with the provisions of the National Planning Policy Framework and require that design which is inappropriate to the local area, or which fails to maximise opportunities for improving the character and quality of an area, will not be acceptable.

Proposals for new development would therefore require the aforementioned considerations to be adequately assessed and designed, including the siting, design and scale to be respectful of surrounding development and ensure that the character of the area is not compromised.

The proposed extension would protrude from the front elevation by approximately 3348mm, with a width of 5548mm. This addition would result in a projection beyond the existing front elevation, including that of the existing garage projection. However, this additional projection would be modest.

To the rear, in order to accommodate for the new layout, the existing rear projection that runs along the boundary of the site would be demolished, with the proposed rear extension being constructed in its place; albeit providing a further degree of separation to the boundary. This extension would be slightly shorter in projection and would sit with an increased separation distance to the boundary. In total, the extension would run a total of 11354mm, when viewed inclusive of the wet room within the internal redesign; however, this is considered to be acceptable when viewed in respect of the existing rear projection currently present on site. In addition to this, there would also be further alterations in this area as the new extension would feature a hipped roof, rather than a flat roof which would match the existing dwelling and should appear more visually appealing.

In reference to the roof height, the eaves would be level throughout with the ridges varying in height; although no roof would be higher than the existing and therefore ensuring the extension will appear subservient and subordinate further benefitting the scheme.

The materials would also match those of the existing property throughout which ensures the extension would remain in keeping with the host property. The walls would be constructed from clay brickwork with the roof using concrete tiles. The windows and doors shall be constructed from white uPVC.

As part of the development some internal works would also be carried out to the floor plan and layout. These include, but are not limited to, the new front extension featuring a cloak room and ensuite for Bedroom 1 as well opening up the hallway area slightly to feature a 'Sun Tunnel'. The existing utility shall also be opened up into the kitchen area to incorporate a wet room, whilst the kitchen is to be moved into the rear section of the bungalow. An open plan eating area will sit adjacent to the kitchen with a sitting room in the rear most part. The proposed alterations are considered to be suitable and do not necessarily require planning permission but have been included in the plans and therefore assessed in the report - they should not create any material harm to the area.

Taking account of the design, scale and nature of the development, as detailed above, the proposal is considered to be acceptable. The proposal would not cause an adverse impact to the character or

appearance of the area and would therefore be in accordance with policies 2 and 3 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan and Section 12 of the National Planning Policy Framework (December 2023).

Impact on Residential Amenity/Land Users

Paragraph 135 of the National Planning Policy Framework (December 2023) states that development should create places that are safe, inclusive and accessible and which promote health and well-being, with a high standard of amenity for existing and future users; and where crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine the quality of life or community cohesion and resilience.

Policies 2 and 3 of South East Lincolnshire Local Plan (2019) sets out that residential amenity and the relationship to existing development and land uses is a main consideration when making planning decisions.

The proposal would introduce windows to the side elevation of the 'eating area' and kitchen, facing towards the direct neighbour. Notwithstanding their location, these windows would face directly at an existing side boundary fence and therefore, given the siting and height of the property, should not create any material overlooking in this instance. Furthermore, there should also be no material overshadowing despite the increase in roof height due to the positioning of the plots; any overshadowing created would be minimal and would be at the latest point in the day when the sun is at its lowest point.

As detailed above, the scale and design of the proposal is considered to be such that there would be no significant or unacceptable impact on the residential amenities of the occupiers of adjacent properties or land users, when also taking account of the conditions recommended. As such, the proposal is considered to accord with the provisions of the Section 12 of the National Planning Policy Framework (December 2023), and Policies 2 and 3 of the Local Plan.

Planning Balance

As detailed above, Section 38 (6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, as amended, requires that the Local Planning Authority makes decisions in accordance with the adopted Development Plan, unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

The proposal represents appropriate development within the defined settlement boundary. The development hereby proposed does not materially harm the character or appearance of the locality, or amenity of nearby residents, whilst conforming with the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan and the provisions of the National Planning policy Framework when viewed as a whole.

In this instance, there are no material considerations that weigh against the proposal and as such, the planning balance is in favour of the development.

Additional Considerations

Public Sector Equality Duty

In making this decision the Authority must have regard to the public sector equality duty (PSED) under s.149 of the Equalities Act. This means that the Council must have due regard to the need (in discharging its functions) to:

A. Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act

B. Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. This may include removing or minimising disadvantages suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic; taking steps to meet the special needs of those with a protected characteristic; encouraging participation in public life (or other areas where they are underrepresented) of people with a protected characteristic(s).

C. Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not including tackling prejudice and promoting understanding.

The protected characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

The PSED must be considered as a relevant factor in making this decision but does not impose a duty to achieve the outcomes in s.149. It is only one factor that needs to be considered, and may be balanced against other relevant factors.

It is not considered that the recommendation in this case will have a disproportionately adverse impact on a protected characteristic.

Human Rights

In making a decision, the Authority should be aware of and take into account any implications that may arise from the Human Rights Act 1998. Under the Act, it is unlawful for a public authority such as South Holland District Council to act in a manner that is incompatible with the European Convention on Human Rights. The Authority is referred specifically to Article 8 (right to respect for private and family life) and Article 1 of the First Protocol (protection of property).

It is not considered that the recommendation in this case interferes with local residents' right to respect for their private and family life, home and correspondence, except insofar as it is necessary to protect the rights and freedoms of others (in this case, the rights of the applicant). The Council is also permitted to control the use of property in accordance with the general public interest and the recommendation is considered to be a proportionate response to the submitted application based on the considerations set out in this report.

Conclusion

Taking the above considerations into account, the proposal is considered to be in accordance with Policies 1, 2 and 3 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan (SELLP) (2019), along with the identified sections contained within the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (December 2023). There are no significant factors in this case that indicate against the proposal and outweigh the consideration in favour of the proposal and the policies referred to above.

Recommendation

Based on the assessment detailed above, it is recommended that the proposal should be approved under Delegated Authority.