

DECISION DELEGATED TO HEAD OF PLANNING

Application No: H06-0240-26 **Applicant:** S & S Pugh and Sons Ltd

Proposal: Proposed agricultural store to store farm implements, machinery & tractors

Location: Parsons Yard Middle Drove Gedney

Terminal Date: 10th April 2026

Planning Policies

South East Lincolnshire Local Plan - Adopted: March 2019

National Guidance

National Planning Policy Framework December 2024

Representations:

	Object	Support	No Obj.	Comments
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CASE OFFICER ASSESSMENT

Proposal

The application seeks to establish if prior approval is required for a proposed agricultural building on land at Parsons Yard, Middle Drove, Gedney. According to the submission, the building is proposed for agricultural storage.

According to the application form, the agricultural unit comprises 600ha; however, the applicant's agent has subsequently stated in an email dated 30 March 2026 that the unit features approximately 400ha. Permitted development rights for agricultural development on units of 5 hectares or more are set out within Schedule 2, Part 6, Class A of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (GPDO) (as amended).

The proposed building would measure 45m in length and 10m in width. Initially, the application form stated that the height was '45 & 3.4'. This was queried with the applicant's agent as the height was unclear and the agent clarified that the building is proposed to measure 3m up to the ridgeline and 2.4m up to the eaves. As such, the proposals have been assessed based on the subsequent measurements.

Relevant Planning History

No applications have previously been submitted within the site.

Consultation

As the application is a prior notification application, there is no requirement for formal consultation.

Planning Assessment

Whether the proposal is permitted development

The application is a prior notification application submitted under Schedule 2, Part 6, Class A of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development Order) 2015 (as amended).

Class A states that development consisting of the following is permitted:

*"A. The carrying out on agricultural land comprised in an agricultural unit of 5 hectares or more in area of
(a) works for the erection, extension or alteration of a building; or
(b) any excavation or engineering operations,
which are reasonably necessary for the purposes of agriculture within that unit."*

This is subject to restrictions which are set out under Section A.1 parts (a) to (l). The proposed building is assessed against these restrictions as follows.

"a) the development would be carried out on a separate parcel of land forming part of the unit which is less than 1 hectare in area;"

The parcel of land where the development is located is approximately 0.47 ha. This is separate from the rest of the agricultural unit and as such, the proposal does not comply with part a.

"b) it would consist of the erection or extension of any agricultural building on an established agricultural unit (as defined in paragraph X of Part 3 of this Schedule) where development under Class Q or S of Part 3 (changes of use) of this Schedule has been carried out within a period of 10 years ending with the date on which development under Class A(a) begins;"

The local planning authority is not aware of any other development that has taken place under Class Q or S within the agricultural unit.

"c) it would consist of, or include, the erection, extension or alteration of a dwelling;"

The proposed development would not consist of, or include, the erection, extension or alteration of a dwelling.

"d) it would involve the provision of a building, structure or works not designed for agricultural purposes;"

According to the application form, the proposed building will be used for agricultural storage, to store implements and tools and to reduce trips to and from the unit's main yard in Swineshead. As such, it is considered that the development is for agricultural purposes in accordance with part d.

"e) the ground area which would be covered by
(i) any works or structure (other than a fence) for accommodating livestock or any plant or machinery arising from engineering operations ; or
(ii) any building erected or extended or altered by virtue of Class A ,
... calculated as described in paragraph D.1(2)(a) of this Part;"

The proposed building is not intended to accommodate livestock or plant and machinery. Furthermore, the proposed building would feature approximately 450sqm which would not exceed 1,500sqm.

"f) the height of any part of any building, structure or works within 3 kilometres of the perimeter of an aerodrome would exceed 3 metres;"

Wingland Airfield is located approximately 800m to the south-west of the site. The height of the building is proposed to be 3m up to the ridge line and 2.4m up to the eaves. As such, this accords with part f.

"g) the height of any part of any building, structure or works not within 3 kilometres of the perimeter of an aerodrome would exceed 12 metres;"

The building is within 3km of an aerodrome and as such, part g is not considered to be relevant.

"h) any part of the development would be within 25 metres of a metalled part of a trunk road or classified road;"

The proposed development is not within 25 metres of a metalled part of a trunk road or classified road.

"i) it would consist of, or include, the erection or construction of, or the carrying out of any works to, a building, structure or an excavation used or to be used for the accommodation of livestock or for the storage of slurry or sewage sludge where the building, structure or excavation is, or would be, within 400 metres of the curtilage of a protected building;"

The proposed development does not relate to the accommodation of livestock or for the storage of slurry or sewage sludge.

"j) it would involve excavations or engineering operations on or over article 2(4) land which are connected with fish farming;"

The site does not comprise article 2(4) land.

"k) any building for storing fuel for or waste from a biomass boiler or an anaerobic digestion system (i) would be used for storing waste not produced by that boiler or system or for storing fuel not produced on land within the unit; or (ii) is or would be within 400 metres of the curtilage of a protected building;"

The proposed development is not for the storing of fuel or waste from a biomass boiler.

"(l) the erection or extension of a building would be carried out on land or a building that is, or is within the curtilage of, a scheduled monument;"

The site does not feature a scheduled monument.

Whilst the proposal accords with most of the above referenced criteria, the proposal does not accord with part a. As such, the proposal is not considered to be permitted 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.

In light of the above, the proposal fails to comply with the requirements of Schedule 2, Part 6, Class A of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015 (as amended). As such, the proposal is not permitted development under Schedule 2, Part 6, Class A of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015 (as amended). Therefore, the recommendation is that the proposal is refused under delegated authority.

Recommendation

The proposal is not permitted development.