SJC Property Kent Ltd
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Bethersden
Ashford
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TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

FULL

Reference:	H06-0768-25	**Date of Decision:**	26th May 2026
Applicant:	SJC Property Kent Ltd Brook Meadow Wissenden Lane Bethersden Ashford TN36 3AJ		
Location:	Green Acres Park Ropers Gate Gedney Spalding		
Description:	Use of land to provide 16 additional mobile homes for Gypsy & Traveller Use		

South Holland District Council, in pursuance of the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended), hereby give notice that permission has been GRANTED (or equivalent) for the development referred to above, subject to the following condition(s):

1 The development must be begun not later than the expiration of three years beginning with the date of this permission.

Reason: As required by Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

2 The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the following approved plans and/or documents:

Location Plan
Proposed Block Plan
Flood Risk Assessment, November 2024
November 2024 - Flood Evacuation Plan
June 2024, Ecological Appraisal & Biodiversity Net Gain Statement

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Planning Statement
1967/1 Site Survey Plan

Reason: For the avoidance of doubt and in the interests of proper planning.

3 The site shall not be occupied by any persons other than those who meet the definition of Gypsies and Travellers as set out in Annex 1 of the Government's Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (2024) (or any subsequent revision).

Reason: The site is located in the open countryside where residential development would not normally be permitted. Permission has only been granted having regard to the identified need for Gypsy and Traveller accommodation.
This condition is imposed in accordance with policies 1 and 20 of the South East Lincolnshire Plan 2019

4 Limitation on Number of Pitches
The site shall be limited to a maximum of 16 pitches, and no more than:
·32 mobile homes,
·16 touring caravans,
·8 utility/day rooms, and
·3 stable blocks
shall be stationed on the site at any one time.
Reason: To define the permission and prevent over-intensification in the interests of residential amenity and character
This condition is imposed in accordance with policies 1, 2,3 & 20 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan.

5 Details of the scale, appearance and materials to be used in the construction of the utility/day rooms, stable blocks and any other permanent structures shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority prior to their construction. Details shall be presented in plant form showing all elevations and proposed materials used.

Reason: In the interests of visual amenity and character.
This condition is imposed in accordance with policies 2,3 & 20 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan.

6 The development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved Flood Risk Assessment. All mobile homes shall be:
·set to a minimum of 1 metre above existing ground levels, and
·securely anchored to a suitable base.

Reason: To reduce flood risk to occupants.
This condition is imposed in accordance with policy 4 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan.

7 No pitch shall be occupied until a Flood Warning and Evacuation Plan has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The plan shall be implemented and adhered to at all times.

Reason: To ensure safe evacuation in flood events.
This condition is imposed in accordance with policy 4 of the South East Lincolnshire Local

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Plan.

8 Before any development beyond oversite is commenced, full details of the proposed means of foul and surface water disposal shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority and the details so approved shall be implemented in full before there are any flows into the receiving systems.

Reason: To ensure that the site is adequately drained, to avoid pollution, and to prevent increased risk of flooding.
This Condition is imposed in accordance with Policies 2, 3 and 30 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan, 2019 and Section 14 of the National Planning Policy Framework, December 2024.

9 The development hereby permitted shall not commence until a biodiversity gain plan has been submitted to and approved in writing, by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall then be carried out in accordance with the details as approved.

Reason: To comply with Schedule 7A of the Town and Country Planning Act (1990, as amended).

This Condition is imposed in accordance with Schedule 7A of the Town and Country Planning Act (1990, as amended) and Policy 28 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan, 2019.

10 Prior to any vegetation clearance (defined as the deliberate removal of any semi-natural vegetative habitat e.g., grassland, trees, and native shrubs); or prior to the commencement of any development hereby permitted (whichever comes first); a written 30-year Habitat Management and Maintenance Plan (HMMP) for the Site in question shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

The approved HMMP shall be strictly adhered to and implemented in full for its duration and shall contain:

A) Aims, objectives and targets for management, including habitat target conditions matching the Statutory Biodiversity Metric submitted with the application.

B) Details of the phasing and implementation of the habitats

C) Details of the management operations necessary to achieving aims and objectives.

D) Preparation of a works schedule, including timescales for habitat clearance and habitat creation and/or enhancement.

E) Details of the monitoring needed to measure the effectiveness of management and details of an assessment as to whether the target condition is achieved within the time to target period specified within the approved metric.

F) Details of the persons responsible for the implementation and monitoring.

G) Mechanisms of adaptive management and remedial measures to account for changes

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in the work schedule to achieve required targets.

H) Reporting on the delivery of on-site gains on years 1, 2, 5, 10, 20 and 30 following the implementation of the habitats in accordance with the above details.

Reason: To meet the requirements in delivering the Mandatory Biodiversity Net Gain and to ensure net gain in biodiversity is provided on site.
This Condition is imposed in accordance with Schedule 7A of the Town and Country Planning Act (1990, as amended) and Policy 28 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan, 2019.

11 Before the occupation of the additional pitches hereby approved, the approval of the Local Planning Authority is required to a scheme of landscaping and tree planting for the site (including screening of bin collection points) indicating, inter alia, the number, species, heights on planting and positions of all the trees, together with details of post-planting maintenance.

Such scheme as is approved by the Local Planning Authority shall be carried out and completed in its entirety during the first planting season following practical completion of the development. All trees, shrubs and bushes shall be maintained by the owner or owners of the land on which they are situated for the period of five years beginning with the date of completion of the scheme and during that period all losses, in the opinion of the Local Planning Authority, shall be made good as and when necessary.

Reason: To ensure that the development is adequately landscaped, in the interests of its visual amenity and that of the area in which it is set, and that Biodiversity Net Gain will be achieved.
This Condition is imposed in accordance with Policies 2, 3 and 28 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan, 2019 and the Environment Act 2021.

12 Details of the external illumination of all buildings and areas of the site including details of luminance and fields of illumination shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority prior to the first use of those buildings and areas and there shall be no external illumination other than that so approved.

Reason: To ensure that the Local Planning Authority retains control over these matters, in the interests of the visual amenity of the overall development, to prevent light pollution and to ensure that the development is adequately lit.
This Condition is imposed in accordance with Policies 2, 3 and 30 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan, 2019.

13 Within seven days of the new access being brought into use, the existing access onto Ropers Gate, shown on '1967/1 Site Survey Plan' shall be permanently closed in accordance with a scheme to be agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To reduce to a minimum the number of individual access points to the site, in the interests of road safety.
This Condition is imposed in accordance with Policy 2 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan, 2019.

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14 No individual pitch shall be subdivided or separately sold.

Reason: To prevent uncontrolled intensification.
This condition is imposed in accordance with policies 1 and 20 of teh South East Lincolnshire Local Plan.

Notes:

Biodiversity Net Gain

The applicant's attention is drawn to the following Biodiversity Net Gain requirement.

The effect of Paragraph 13 of Schedule 7A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 is that planning permission is deemed to have been granted subject to the "biodiversity gain condition". The effect of this "biodiversity gain condition" is that development granted by this notice must not begin unless:

(a) a Biodiversity Gain Plan has been submitted to the planning authority, and

(b) the planning authority has approved the plan, or

(c) the development is exempt from the biodiversity gain condition.

The planning authority, for the purposes of determining whether to approve a Biodiversity Gain Plan if one is required in respect of this permission would be South Holland District Council.

This permission will require the submission and approval of a Biodiversity Gain Plan and Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan (HMMP before development is begun). This is over and above the information submitted and considered as part of this application, and will be required before development is begun, because none of the statutory exemptions or transitional arrangements listed below are considered to apply.

For guidance on the contents, in respect of the details that must be submitted and agreed by the Local Planning Authority, prior to the commencement of the consented development, please see the GOV.uk website and Planning Practice Guidance.

Statutory exemptions and transitional arrangements

There are statutory exemptions and transitional arrangements which mean that the biodiversity gain condition does not always apply. These can be found at Paragraph: 003 Reference ID: 74-003-20240214 of the Planning Practice Guidance, which can be found at
https://www.gov.uk/guidance/biodiversity-net-gain.

For clarity, the Local Planning Authority do not consider that any of the exemptions apply in this case. As such, the development hereby permitted will be subject to the biodiversity gain condition.

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Irreplaceable habitat

If the onsite habitat includes irreplaceable habitat (within the meaning of the Biodiversity Gain Requirements (Irreplaceable Habitat) Regulations 2024) there are additional requirements for the content and approval of Biodiversity Gain Plans.

For clarity the LPA do not consider that irreplaceable habitats are present at this site.

The Biodiversity Gain Plan must include, in addition to information about steps taken or to be taken to minimise any adverse effect of the development on the habitat, information on arrangements for compensation for any impact the development has on the biodiversity of the irreplaceable habitat.

The planning authority can only approve a Biodiversity Gain Plan if satisfied that the adverse effect of the development on the biodiversity of the irreplaceable habitat is minimised and appropriate arrangements have been made for the purpose of compensating for any impact which do not include the use of biodiversity credits.

Effect of Section 73(2D) of the 1990 Act

Under Section 73(2D) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) where

(a) a biodiversity gain plan was approved in relation to the previous planning permission ("the earlier biodiversity gain plan"), and

(b) the conditions subject to which the planning permission is granted:

(i) do not affect the post-development value of the onsite habitat as specified in the earlier biodiversity gain plan, and

(ii) in the case of planning permission for a development where all or any part of the onsite habitat is irreplaceable habitat within the meaning of regulations made under paragraph 18 of Schedule 7A, do not change the effect of the development on the biodiversity of that onsite habitat (including any arrangements made to compensate for any such effect) as specified in the earlier biodiversity gain plan.

- the earlier biodiversity gain plan is regarded as approved for the purposes of paragraph 13 of Schedule 7A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) in relation to the planning permission.

The Local Planning Authority has acted positively and proactively in determining this application by assessing it against all material considerations, including national guidance, planning policies and representations that have been received during the public consultation exercise, and by identifying matters of concern within the application and negotiating, with the Applicant, acceptable amendments to the proposal to address those concerns. As a result, the Local Planning Authority has been able to grant planning permission for an acceptable proposal.

This decision notice, the relevant accompanying report and the determined plans can be



Phil Norman
Assistant Director - Planning and Strategic Infrastructure
South Holland District Council

BUILDING REGULATIONS:
This decision refers only to planning permission as granted under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. The works that you are proposing may also require Building Regulations and this planning permission does not give authority under Building Regulations to commence work. Please contact the Building Control team for further information on 01775 764557 or bcadmin@sholland.gov.uk

BUILDING REGULATIONS 2010:
The plans given approval as part of this application, may require the provision of additional information or amendment to show compliance the relevant requirements of the Building Regulations 2010. Typical circumstances include, highly glazed extensions achieving compliance with requirement L1 (Conservation of fuel and power) which may influence the areas of glazed elements/ building elevations, or requirement B1 (Means of warning and escape) which may influence an internal layout for fire safety purposes. Please contact the Building Control team for further information on 01775 764557 or bcadmin@sholland.gov.uk

RIGHTS OF APPEAL

Appeals to the Secretary of State

If you are aggrieved by the decision of your Local Planning Authority to refuse permission for the proposed development or grant consent subject to conditions, then you can appeal to the Secretary of State under Section 78 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 or Section 20 of the Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.

Timescales for appealing

The deadlines for appeals are calculated from the **date of decision** and are as follows for the types of applications below:

12 Weeks	6 Months	8 Weeks
Householder Applications	Planning Permission	Consent to Display Adverts
Minor Commercial Development	Listed Building Consent	
Agricultural Determinations	Other Prior Approval Applications	
Householder Prior Approval Applications		

https://www.gov.uk/appeal-householder-planning-decision

https://www.gov.uk/appeal-planning-decision

If you intend to submit an appeal that you would like examined by inquiry then you must notify the Local Planning Authority and Planning Inspectorate (inquiryappeals@planning inspectorate.gov.uk) at least 10 days before submitting the appeal. Further details are on GOV.UK.

Enforcement Notices

If an enforcement notice was served prior to the planning application being determined then the deadline for appealing is 28 days from the date of the **planning refusal**.

If an enforcement notice is served after the planning application is determined then the deadline for appealing is 28 days from the date of the **enforcement notice** OR **the timescales stated above for each application type** from the date of the planning refusal - whichever is sooner.

Appeals can be made online at: **https://appeal-planning-decision.service.gov.uk/before-you-start**. If you are unable to access the online appeal form, please contact the Planning Inspectorate to obtain a paper copy of the appeal form on tel: 0303 444 5000.

The Secretary of State can allow a longer period for giving notice of an appeal but will not normally be prepared to use this power unless there are special circumstances which excuse the delay in

giving notice of appeal.

The Secretary of State need not consider an appeal if it seems to the Secretary of State that the Local Planning Authority could not have granted planning permission for the proposed development or could not have granted it without the conditions they imposed, having regard to the statutory requirements, to the provisions of any development order and to any directions given under the order.

Purchase Notices

If either the Local Planning Authority or the Secretary of State refuses permission to develop land or grant it subject to conditions the owner may claim that he can neither put the land to a reasonably beneficial use in its existing state nor can he render the land capable of a reasonably beneficial use by the carrying out of any development which has been or would be permitted.

In these circumstances the owner may serve a purchase notice on the Council in whose area the land is situated. This notice will require the Council to purchase his interest in the land in accordance with the provisions of the Part VI of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 or Section 32 of the Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.

Compensation

In certain circumstances compensation may be claimed from the Local Planning Authority if permission is refused or granted subject to conditions by the Secretary of State on appeal or on reference of the application to him.

These circumstances are set out in Section 114 and related provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and Section 27 of the Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.