

DECISION DELEGATED TO DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

Application No: H09-0072-21 **Applicant:** Mr P Thatcher
Proposal: Rear single storey flat roofed accessible bedroom and wetroom extension
Location: Westbury Mill Lane Holbeach
Terminal Date: 2nd April 2021

Planning Policies

South East Lincolnshire Local Plan - Adopted: March 2019

02 Development Management
03 Design of New Development

National Guidance

National Planning Policy Framework 2019

Section 12 - Achieving well designed places.

Representations:

	Object	Support	No Obj.	Comments
PARISH COUNCIL	0	0	0	0
WARD MEMBER	0	0	0	0

CASE OFFICER ASSESSMENT

PROPOSAL

This is a householder planning application for a single storey flat roofed extension to provide an accessible bedroom and wetroom.

The property is known as Westbury at Mill Lane, Holbeach, Spalding.

SITE DESCRIPTION

The site is of a triangular shape and is located by the highway junction of the A17 and Mill Lane. Dark Lane runs to the rear. The wider context is characterised by open agricultural fields. The nearest residential property is The Seven Arches approximately 79 metres to the north-east. No dwelling immediately adjoins the site.

The property is a two-storey detached cottage. The rear garden is grassed other than the patio area. There is a long outbuilding for storage onto the field to the north-west. A tall concrete outbuilding is further to the rear.

A mixture of conifer hedge and bushes obscures greatly the site from the public roads, especially on the boundaries onto Mill Lane and Dark Lane.

RELEVANT PLANNING HISTORY

None.

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

None.

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

Principle of development

The site is within the countryside as set out in the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan (SELLP), 2019. The principle of a house extension that is incidental to the enjoyment of a dwellinghouse is acceptable.

Section 38 (6) of the Town and Country Planning Act, as amended by the 2004 Act, states that the determination must be made in accordance with the development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise. The key material considerations are addressed below.

Layout, Design, Size and Scale

Paragraph 127 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), 2019 establishes that planning policies and decisions should ensure that developments will function well and add to the overall quality of the area; are visually attractive as a result of good architecture and sympathetic to local character and history, including the surrounding built environment and landscape setting; and 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 SELLP states 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.

The aim of the proposed development is to adapt the property to meet the functional needs of a disabled person.

The proposed extension would have a total width of 4.50 metres with a depth of 9 metres to the rear of the house. In particular, the footprint would protrude approximately 6.70 metres from the original rear wall and 2.20 metres from the northern side wall. Having regard to the existing dimensions of the house and the plot it sits within, the proposed extension is acceptable in terms of scale, mass and bulk.

The extension would be flat roofed, however given that it would be located to the rear of the dwelling and screened from view by outbuildings there are no visual amenity concerns.

In summary, the scale and height of the proposed extension is commensurate with the building and adjoining development. The extension would be constructed in red brick rather than rendered as the existing house. This is not considered to detract from the visual amenity in the setting of the property. The development would meet the functional needs of the house occupier. For these reasons, this application complies with the aforementioned policies on design, layout and impact upon character of the local area.

Impacts upon Residential amenity

The proposed extension is single storey in nature and there are no adjoining residential properties therefore it is not considered that there would be any impact upon residential amenity.

Taking the above into account, the proposal is considered to be in accordance with Policies 2 and 3

of the SELLP, 2019 and Section 12 in the NPPF, 2019 in terms of residential amenity.

Planning Balance

The proposal will not materially harm the character or appearance of the locality or amenity of nearby residents. The planning balance is therefore considered to be in favour of the proposal.

CONCLUSION

In light of the considerations above, the proposal is considered to be in accordance with Policies 2 and 3 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan (2019) and Section 12 of the National Planning Policy Framework (2019).

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.

RECOMMENDATION

That the application be approved under delegated powers.

The application was referred to the Chairman's Panel on 19 March where a delegated decision was agreed.