

Online Comment

Application H09-0432-18
Location Paddock between: 1 Paddock Lane/Campling Place Holbeach Bank
Holbeach
Proposal Proposal of 32 new sustainable dwellings comprising 8 affordable homes
and 24 open market homes, together with provision of New Community
Village Shop and village green - resubmission of H09-0034-17

Name Angela Doherty
Address Housing Strategy

Date Submitted 04-06-18
For/Against Comments

Should the development be permitted the current policy requires 1/3 of the development to be provided as affordable housing to meet district wide housing needs. However, given the direction of travel with the soon to be adopted emerging Local Plan, which requires 1/4 of the development to be provided as affordable housing based on viability evidence within the Whole Plan Viability study, Strategic Housing recommends that 1/4 (25%) of the development should be provided as affordable housing.

The applicant has submitted a Housing Needs Survey to support the development of affordable homes in that location. Given that this application is not being determined as a Rural Exception Site development, the survey carries no weight and the results of it cannot be verified as it has not been undertaken in collaboration with the council to understand housing needs in that location.

Should the development be permitted the affordable contribution should be provided with a tenure split of 70% in favour of Rented and 30% Intermediate low cost home ownership dwellings. To meet needs identified within the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (2014 & 2017 update) Strategic Housing would recommend that a mix of property types and sizes are provided for the affordable housing contribution, comprising of approximately 25% as one beds, 40% as two beds, 30% as three beds and 5% as four beds.

It would be preferable for the affordable housing to be secured through a s106 agreement. The s106 agreement should include an agreed affordable housing scheme detailing the tenure split, property types and sizes, plot numbers, internal floor areas, design standards and the phasing of the affordable housing units, although I appreciate the detail may not be known at outline application stage.

It would be preferable for the homes to be built to the 'National Space Standards'. As a minimum the affordable homes should be built to the former Housing Corporation Design and Quality standards which for this development would be at least:

1 beds 2 person 45sqm
2 beds 4 person 67sqm
3 bed 5 person 82sqm
4 bed 6 person 95sqm.

Ideally the affordable housing should be spread proportionately across the scheme to enable a mixed and sustainable community.

The developer should also seek to secure a Registered Provider for the affordable dwellings at the earliest opportunity. The Strategic Housing Team can provide a list of RPs with stock in the local area should the developer require this.

The Strategic Housing Market Assessment also identifies a recommended mix for market housing to meet current and projected housing needs in the district. The recommendation is as follows: 1 bedrooms- 5%, 2 bedrooms- 35%, 3 bedrooms- 45% and 4 bedrooms- 15%. We would expect the market housing to broadly reflect this.