FLOOD RISK ASSESSMENT
FOR RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AT
FURTHER OLD GATE, HOLBEACH

FINAL REPORT

ECL0403-2/ROBERT DOUGHTY CONSULTANCY

DATE APRIL 2023

ELLINGHAM CONSULTING LTD
Email: tim@ellinghamconsulting.co.uk

CONTENTS

1.0 INTRODUCTION

2.0 SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION
- 2.1 Site Location
- 2.2 Existing Site
- 2.3 Proposed Development
- 2.4 Local Development Documents
- 2.5 Available Flood Risk Information

3.0 FLOOD RISK VULNERABILITY
- 3.1 The Sequential and Exception Test
- 3.2 Vulnerability Classification
- 3.3 Application of the Sequential and Exception Test

4.0 SITE SPECIFIC FLOOD RISK
- 4.1 Local Flood Assets
- 4.2 Sources of Flooding
- 4.3 Probability of Flooding
- 4.4 Historic Flooding
- 4.5 Climate Change
- 4.6 Residual Risk

5.0 FLOOD RISK MITIGATION
- 5.1 Summary of Risks
- 5.2 Mitigation Measures

6.0 CONCLUSIONS

ATTACHMENT 1 – Proposed Site Plan (Dwg 1514-3_PL_SP01)

DISCLAIMER
This document has been prepared solely as a Flood Risk Assessment in support of a planning application for proposed residential development at Further Old Gate, Holbeach. "Ellingham Consulting Ltd" accepts no responsibility or liability whatsoever for any use made of this document other than by the client "JH & AJ King Farms Ltd" for the purposes it was originally commissioned and prepared. All comments and opinions made are based upon information available to "Ellingham Consulting Ltd" during the necessary investigative process, and the conclusions and recommendations, could therefore, differ in the event of material subsequently being found erroneous, incomplete, or misleading. "Ellingham Consulting Ltd" therefore, accepts no liability should this prove to be the case.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This Flood Risk Assessment has been prepared in accordance with National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and supporting planning practice guidance (PPG) on Flood Risk and Coastal Change.

In areas at risk of flooding or for sites of 1 hectare or more, developers are required to undertake a site-specific Flood Risk Assessment to accompany an application for planning permission. This Flood Risk Assessment has been produced on behalf of JH & AJ King Farms Ltd in respect of a development that consists of one dwelling at Further Old Gate, Holbeach.

Planning application (H09-0529-21) to convert an agricultural building to form one dwelling was approved in July 2021. The proposed development will supersede the approval granted. A planning application for the proposed development is to be submitted by Robert Doughty Consultancy.

The mitigation measures proposed within this Flood Risk Assessment are consistent with those recommended within the Flood Risk Assessment prepared to support the previous application.

2.0 SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

2.1 Site Location

The site is located at Further Old Gate, Holbeach, Spalding, Lincolnshire, PE12 8QE. The National Grid Reference of the site is 53501/32286.

The location of the site is shown in Figure 1.

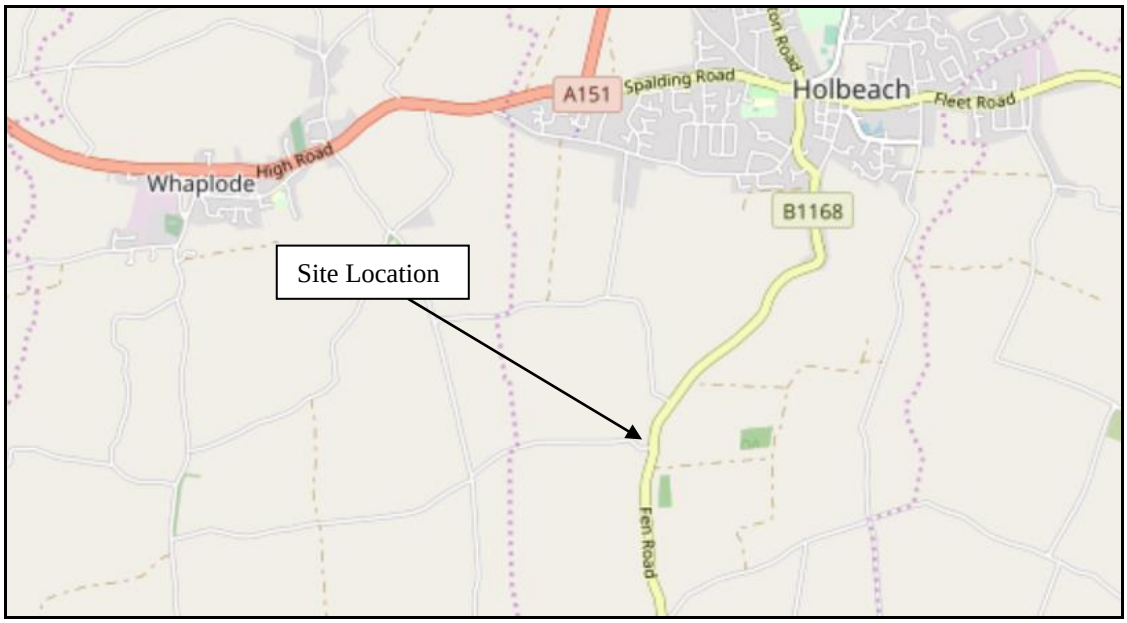


Figure 1 – Location Plan (© OpenStreetMap contributors)

2.2 Existing Site

The site is on the northern side of Further Old Gate approximately 60m west of the junction with Fen Road. The site consists of an agricultural building and surrounding agricultural land. The building is made up of several adjoining barns. The area of development is approximately 0.05 hectares.

A topographic survey has been undertaken at the site. Ground levels within the site are typically +3.0m OD on the western boundary and +2.6m OD on the eastern boundary. Ground levels have been locally raised on the western side of the agricultural building. Floor levels within the barns that make up the building range between +2.95m OD and +3.23m OD.

The site is in the South Holland Internal Drainage Board (IDB) District. Surface water at the site drains naturally through soakaway and hence to the IDB drain system. The nearest IDB drain is a High Priority Watercourse which follows the eastern boundary of the site.

The online British Geological Survey maps indicate that the site is likely to be underlain by West Walton Formation Mudstone and Siltstone. The bedrock is shown to be overlain with superficial deposits of clay and silt.

2.3 Proposed Development

The proposed development consists of one residential dwelling. The dwelling will have two storeys. Details of the proposed development are provided in Attachment 1.

2.4 Local Development Documents

The South East Lincolnshire Local Plan 2011 – 2036, adopted in March 2019, is the Local Plan for the district. Policy 4: Approach to Flood Risk states the requirements for flood risk reduction.

The South East Lincolnshire Level 1 and Level 2 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) was prepared in June 2017.

The Joint Lincolnshire Flood Risk and Drainage Management Strategy has been prepared by Lincolnshire County Council as the Lead Local Flood Authority. The purpose of the Strategy is to increase the safety of people across Lincolnshire by reducing the number of people at risk of flooding, increasing the resilience of local communities, and reducing the impact of flooding.

2.5 Flood Zones

The site is located within Flood Zone 3, an area with a high probability of flooding, of the Environment Agency Flood Maps for Planning as shown in Figure 2.

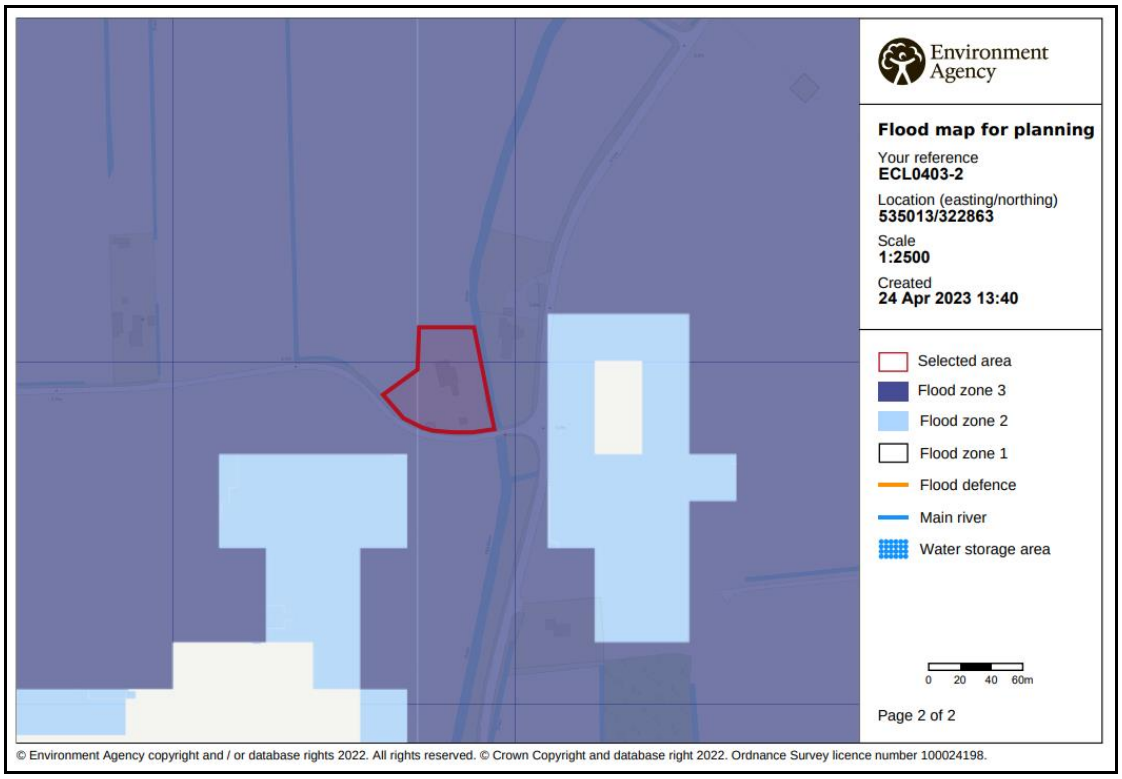


Figure 2 – Environment Agency Flood Map for Planning

The Environment Agency Long Term Flood Risk maps show that:

- the site has a low risk of flooding from rivers or the sea (annual probability between 0.1% and 1%);
- the site has a very low risk of surface water flooding (annual probability less than 0.1%); and
- the site is not within an area at risk of reservoir flooding.

Table 1 shows the level of risk at the site within the South East Lincolnshire SFRA.

SFRA Map	Present Day	2116
Residual Flood Hazard Map for the 1% fluvial and 0.5% tidal event	The site is outside the 'Low Hazard' area	The site is outside the 'Low Hazard' area
Residual Peak Depth Map for the 1% fluvial and 0.5% tidal	The site is outside the area at risk of flooding.	The site is outside the area at risk of flooding.

Table 1 – Flood Risk within SFRA Maps

3.0 FLOOD RISK VULNERABILITY

3.1 The Sequential and Exception Test

The NPPF requires the application of a Sequential Test to ensure that new development is in areas with the lowest probability of flooding.

The Exception Test is a method to demonstrate and help ensure that flood risk to people and property will be managed, while allowing necessary development to go ahead in situations where suitable sites at lower risk of flooding are not available.

3.2 Vulnerability Classification

Table 2 of the PPG Flood Risk and Coastal Change categorises different types of uses and development according to their vulnerability to flood risk. The proposed development is covered by the description of buildings used for dwellings and is classified as 'More Vulnerable'.

Table 3 of the PPG Flood Risk and Coastal Change sets out Flood Risk Vulnerability and flood zone 'compatibility'. The site is in Flood Zone 3 and the development is 'More Vulnerable' therefore it is necessary to complete the Exception Test.

PPG Flood Risk and Coastal Change defines that the lifetime of the development in terms of flood risk and coastal change is 100 years.

3.3 Application of the Sequential and Exception Test

It is for the Local Planning Authority, using the evidence provided and taking advice from the Environment Agency as appropriate, to consider whether an application passes the Sequential Test.

The site has permission for the conversion of the agricultural building to form one dwelling. It is considered that the permissions for the change of use of the building has established the principle for a dwelling at the site. It is proposed that the dwelling that forms this application will replace the existing permissions.

As the proposed development can be considered to be the same as replacement dwellings it is not necessary to apply the Sequential Test.

The Exception Test requires consideration of the wider sustainability benefits of a development and that the development would be safe and residual risks managed.

The Local Plan has a target of a net increase of at least 11,681 dwellings in South Holland over the 25-year local plan period. The Plan considers this new housing is required to ensure the sustainability of the Local Plan area. The proposed development will contribute to this target.

Section 5 of this Flood Risk Assessment describes the flood mitigation measures and the management of the residual risks, demonstrating that this development will be safe and not increase flood risk elsewhere. The development is considered to pass the Exception Test.

4.0 SITE SPECIFIC FLOOD RISK

4.1 Local Flood Assets

The South Holland IDB district is protected by the Wash tidal defences along the Holbeach Marsh frontage with embankment levels at a minimum of +7.0m OD. The Wash tidal defences are 12.5km from the site. The River Nene tidal defences are 12.6km to the east of the site. The River Welland tidal defences are 8.8km to the north west of the site. All three defences are the responsibility of the Environment Agency.

There is a long-term strategy for the maintenance of the Environment Agency defences which is reviewed and updated periodically.

There is an extensive local drainage network managed by South Holland IDB. There is an IDB High Priority Watercourse that runs in a southerly direction along the eastern boundary of the site. The site and the surrounding land are within the Little Holland catchment and drains to the Little South Holland Drain which discharges to the South Holland Main Drain at the Little Holland Pumping Station. The South Holland Main Drain discharges to the tidal River Nene at the Sutton Bridge Tidal Sluice.

During the operation and maintenance of its pumping stations, associated structures, and channel systems, the IDB seeks to maintain a general standard capable of providing flood protection to its district. A routine maintenance programme is in place to ensure that the Boards assets are commensurate with the standard of protection that is sought.

Current maintenance standards of the South Holland Internal Drainage Board and the Environment Agency are generally good.

4.2 Sources of Flooding

The potential sources of flooding that have been identified during this assessment are:

- local blockages to the IDB drainage system;
- an event in the local drainage network that exceeds the standard of protection;
- failure of Little Holland Pumping Station; and
- overtopping and breaching of the Wash, River Nene, or River Welland tidal defences.

4.3 Probability of Flooding

The probability of flooding associated with blockages in the South Holland IDB drainage system is low due to the maintenance standards achieved and managed by

the IDB. The topography of the site is such that overland flows are likely to flow around the dwelling.

The standard of drainage provided by South Holland IDB is assessed at 2% annual probability (1 in 50 chance each year), compatible with the Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) target level of service for rural drainage and flood defence works. The risk associated with flooding due to events greater than 2% annual probability (1 in 50 chance each year) is lowered due to the South Holland IDB high priority watercourses incorporating a freeboard. This provides storage during events greater than 2% annual probability (1 in 50 chance each year).

The site is within an area benefitting from defences. The flood embankments to the Wash and the River Nene and River Welland tidal defences provide protection during a 0.5% annual probability (1 in 200 chance each year) event. The flood risk from the Wash is lowered further by second line defences and various informal banks constructed during the reclamation of Holbeach Marsh.

4.4 Historic Flooding

During the preparation of this assessment, no evidence was discovered of the site being flooded. Previous historic rainfall events of 1968 and 1978, estimated to be greater than 1% annual probability (1 in 100 chance each year), caused no flooding to any residential properties.

4.5 Climate Change

Climate change is likely to impact the site through increased rainfall intensity and duration affecting the local drainage network and increased tide levels.

The tidal flood level during the 0.5% annual probability (1 in 200 chance each year) event inclusive of climate change to 2115 is estimated to be 7.2m AOD. The minimum defence level of the Wash, River Nene, and River Welland embankments is 7.0m AOD. There is a low risk during such an event for wave and wind action to cause overtopping and/or breaching of the tidal defences. However, the second line defences with embankment levels of 6.0m AOD would further reduce the probability of flood water reaching the development site.

4.6 Residual Risk

There is a residual risk of flooding to land close to the Wash, River Nene, and River Welland should a breach of the tidal defences occur. The South East Lincolnshire SFRA includes maps demonstrating the residual peak depth in 2116. The Residual Peak Depth maps within the SFRA show that when the climate change allowances are applied to the 1% annual probability fluvial (1 in 100 chance each year) and the 0.5% annual probability tidal (1 in 200 chance each year) event the site is not at risk. An extract from this map is shown in Figure 3 below.

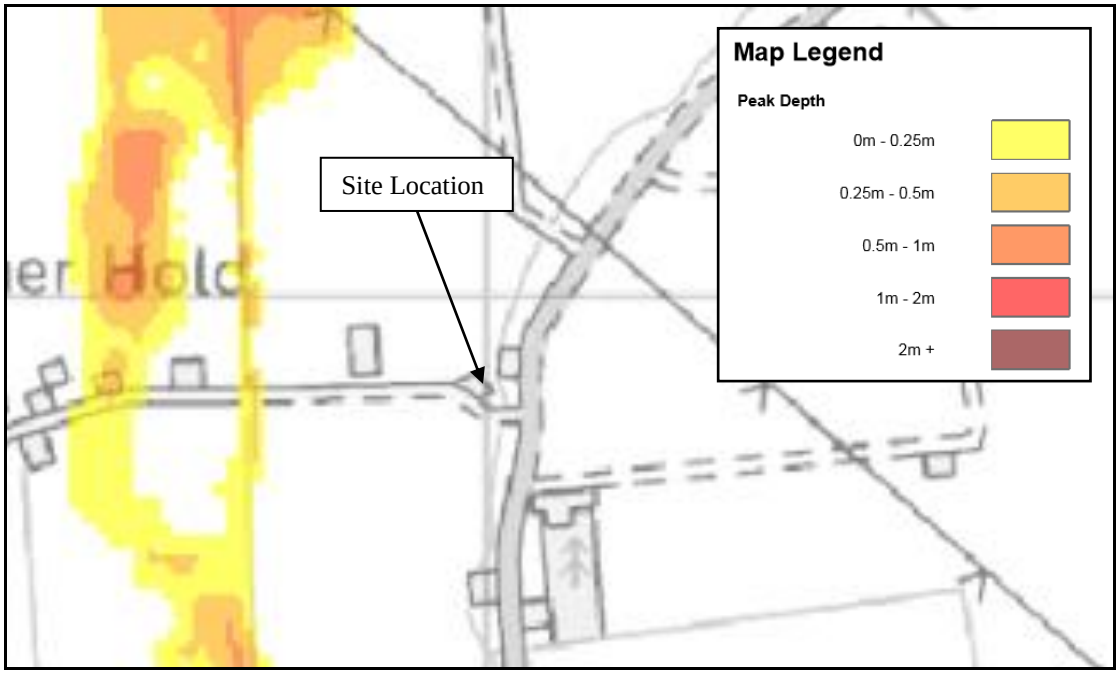


Figure 3 – SFRA 2116 Residual Peak Depth Map

5.0 FLOOD RISK MITIGATION

5.1 Summary of Risks

The probability of this development flooding from localised drainage systems is low. The topography around the proposed dwelling further reduces this risk. Failure of Little Holland Pumping Station could lead to an increased level of risk at the site.

The probability of the site flooding from any Environment Agency system is less than 0.5% annual probability (1 in 200 chance each year) because of the standards of the existing flood defences. Over time there will be a gradual increase in risk to the site due to climate change. During the design life of the development, it is not anticipated that the site would flood from overtopping of the defences.

The SFRA considers the residual risk associated with a breach in the defences in 2116. The maps show that the site is not at risk.

The proposed arrangement increases the impermeable area and therefore there will be an increased volume of surface water that has the potential to increase flood risk.

5.2 Mitigation Measures

The site has a low 'actual risk' of flooding. Based upon the information available during the preparation of this flood risk assessment, it is recommended that the finished floor level of the dwelling is 0.3m above ground levels surrounding the building. Furthermore, there should be 0.3m of flood resilient construction above finished floor level.

The developer should ensure that the eventual occupier of the dwelling is sufficiently aware of the risk of flooding, and the standard of the existing defences. The Environment Agency operates a flood warning system for properties at risk of flooding to enable householders to protect life or take actions to manage the effect of flooding on property. Floodline Warnings Service is a national system run by the Environment Agency for broadcasting flooding warnings. The occupier of the dwelling should register to receive flood warnings.

Should there be a failure of Little Holland Pumping Station and conditions were such to put properties and land at risk of flooding, the Internal Drainage Board would take emergency action to maintain the drainage level of service by utilising temporary pumping equipment.

It is recommended that surface water run-off is managed so that stormwater from the development will not affect any adjoining properties or increase the flood risk elsewhere.

6.0 CONCLUSIONS

As a result of the assessment, the following conclusions have been reached.

- The proposed development consists of one 2-storey residential dwelling at Further Old Gate, Holbeach.

- The proposed development is in Flood Zone 3. It is protected by tidal defences on the Wash, River Nene, and River Welland during the 1% annual probability (1 in 100 chance each year) fluvial event and 0.5% annual probability (1 in 200) tidal event including climate change. The site is not at risk during a breach of the tidal defences.

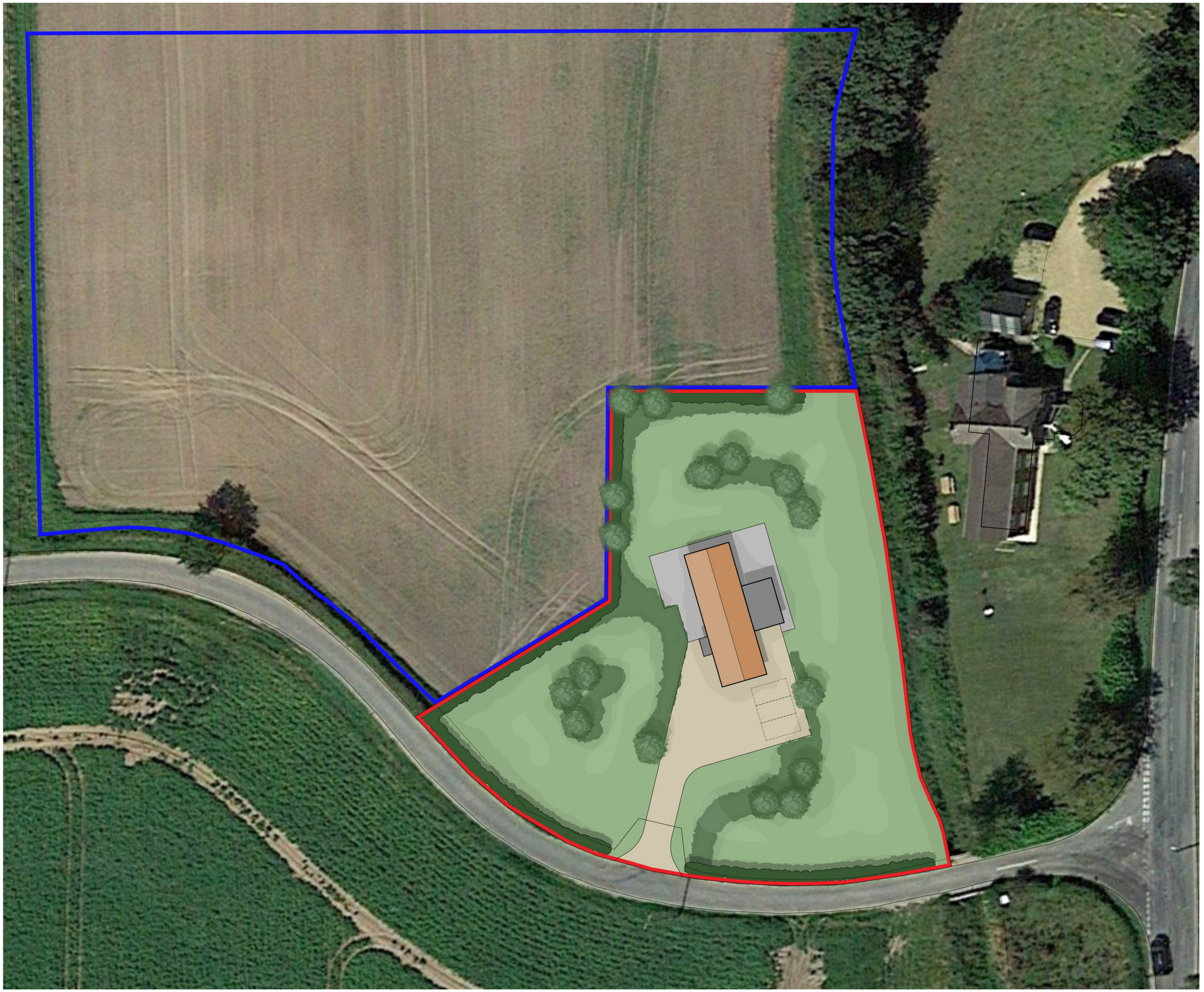
- The site is located within an Internal Drainage Board catchment with a minimum standard of drainage of 2% annual probability (1 in 50 chance each year) which accords with DEFRA guidelines for rural development. The risk of flooding is lowered further due to the South Holland IDB high priority watercourses incorporating a significant freeboard. This provides storage during events greater than 2% annual probability (1 in 50 chance each year).

- It is recommended that the finished floor level of the dwelling is 0.3m above ground levels surrounding the dwelling and there is 0.3m of flood resilient construction above finished floor level.

- The development passes the Sequential Test and Exception Test and is therefore suitable for the proposed location.

ATTACHMENT 1

PROPOSED SITE PLAN
(Dwg 1514-3_PL_SP01)



Notes

Copyright
© Robert Doughty Consultancy Limited.
All rights described in the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 have been asserted.

Ordnance Survey Map
© Crown Copyright. OS Licence No: AR 100010613.

CDM 2015
This drawing is for illustrative purposes and/or obtaining the relevant planning permission only. It should not be used for construction and accordingly, risk identification under the Construction (Design & Management) Regulations 2015 has not been undertaken.

N

0 5 10 15 20 25m

Rev	Description	Date
-	-	-

rdc
Robert Doughty Consultancy

32 High Street, Helpringham
Sleaford, Lincolnshire, NG34 0RA

Tel: 01529 421646
Email: admin@rdc-landplan.co.uk
Web: www.rdc-landplan.co.uk

Client
Ben Dawson

Project
Residential Development
Land off Further Old Gate, Holbeach

Drawing
Proposed Site Plan

Scale @ A3	Date
1: 500	31/03/23

Drawn By	Checked By
WW	LMS

Job Number	Status	Purpose of Issue
1514-3	PL	Discussion

Drawing No. **Rev**
1514-3_PL_SP01 -