FLOOD RISK ASSESSMENT
FOR RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AT
FARROW AVENUE, HOLBEACH

FINAL REPORT

ECL0840/STATUS DESIGN

DATE SEPTEMBER 2022

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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 Status Design in respect of a development that consists of six residential dwellings at Farrow Avenue, Holbeach.

A planning application for the proposed development is to be submitted by Status Design.

2.0 SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

2.1 Site Location

The site is located on land off Farrow Avenue, Holbeach, Spalding, Lincolnshire, PE12 7DG. The National Grid Reference of the site is 53628/32453.

The location of the site is shown in Figure 1.

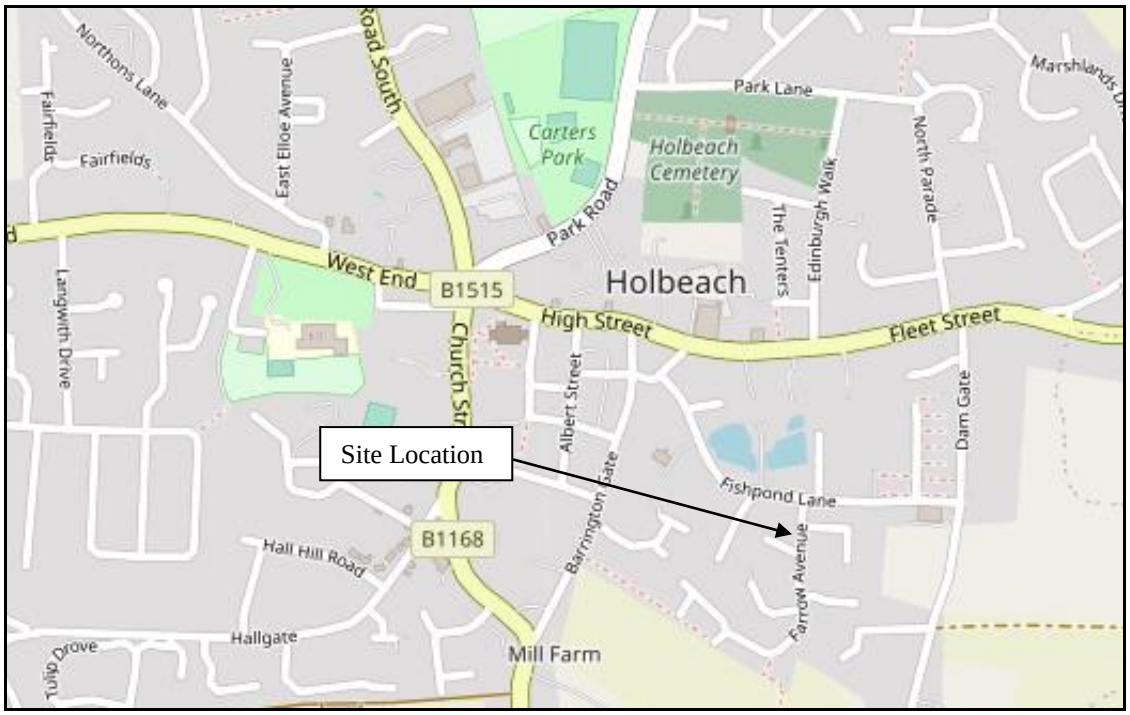


Figure 1 – Location Plan (© OpenStreetMap contributors)

2.2 Existing Site

The site is on the western side of Farrow Avenue. The site has had an industrial use and within the site there are four buildings. The site has an access to Farrow Avenue. The southern boundary of the site is formed by a private drive, there are residential dwellings to the north and west. The area of development is approximately 0.13 hectares.

Environment Agency LIDAR shows that ground levels within the site range between +2.9m OD and +3.1m OD. The Farrow Avenue carriageway is at a level of +3.0m OD.

The site is in the South Holland Internal Drainage Board (IDB) District. Surface water at the site drains through the network of local drains and hence to the IDB drain system. The nearest IDB watercourse is a high priority pipeline below the carriageway of Farrow Avenue.

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 six dwellings. The dwellings 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

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

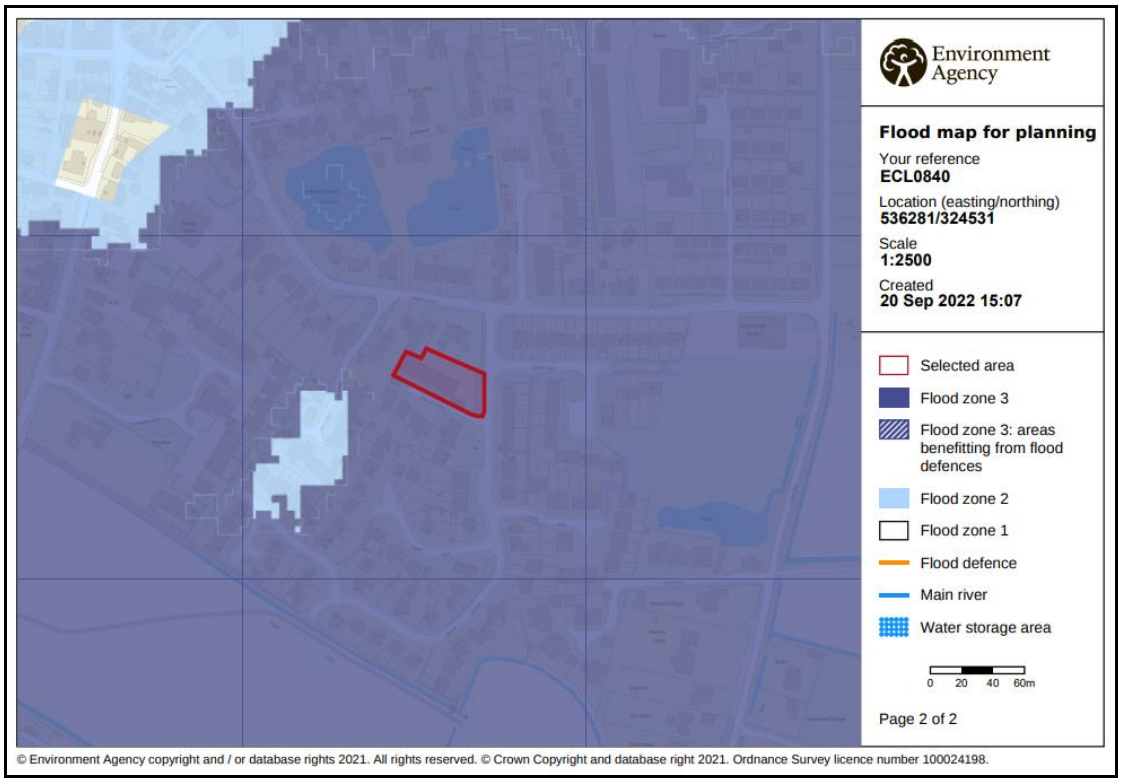


Figure 2 – Environment Agency Flood Map for Planning

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 Test 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.

Large parts of the South Holland district between the River Welland and River Nene lie within Flood Zone 3. As such, opportunities to undertake the development at an alternative site with a lower flood risk are limited. At this location it is not possible to position the development on higher ground within the proposed site.

The SFRA states that as it is necessary to use the refined flood risk information (hazard and depth maps) to assist with the application of the Sequential Test. The refined flood risk information contained within the SFRA demonstrates the site is not at risk during the 1% annual probability fluvial and 0.5% annual probability tidal event in 2115. The site therefore has a low probability of flooding and is considered to pass 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 approximately 10km from the site. The River Nene tidal defences are 12.4km to the east of the site. The River Welland tidal defences are approximately 8.6km 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 Pipeline below the Farrow Avenue carriageway. 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 Outfall 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 or Sutton Bridge Outfall Sluice; 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.

Through the operation and maintenance of the pumping stations and the channel system the Board seek to maintain a general standard capable to providing flood protection to agricultural land and developed areas of 1 in 20 years and 1 in 100 years, respectively. The risk associated with flood events that exceed the standard of protection provided is lowered due to the South Holland IDB main drains incorporating freeboard. This freeboard provides storage during the exceedance events.

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. During such an event it is likely that wave and wind action would cause overtopping 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. This level of risk is confirmed by the SFRA.

In summary the site is not at risk for the design life of the development (i.e., 100 years).

4.6 Residual Risk

The South East Lincolnshire SFRA includes maps demonstrating the impact of climate change in 2116. The Residual Peak Depth maps within the SFRA indicate the maximum flood depths associated with a breach of the tidal defences. These show that when climate change allowances are applied to the combination of a 1% annual probability (1 in 100 chance each year) fluvial event and a 0.5% annual probability (1 in 200 chance each year) tidal event the site is not at risk. An extract from this map is shown in Figure 3.

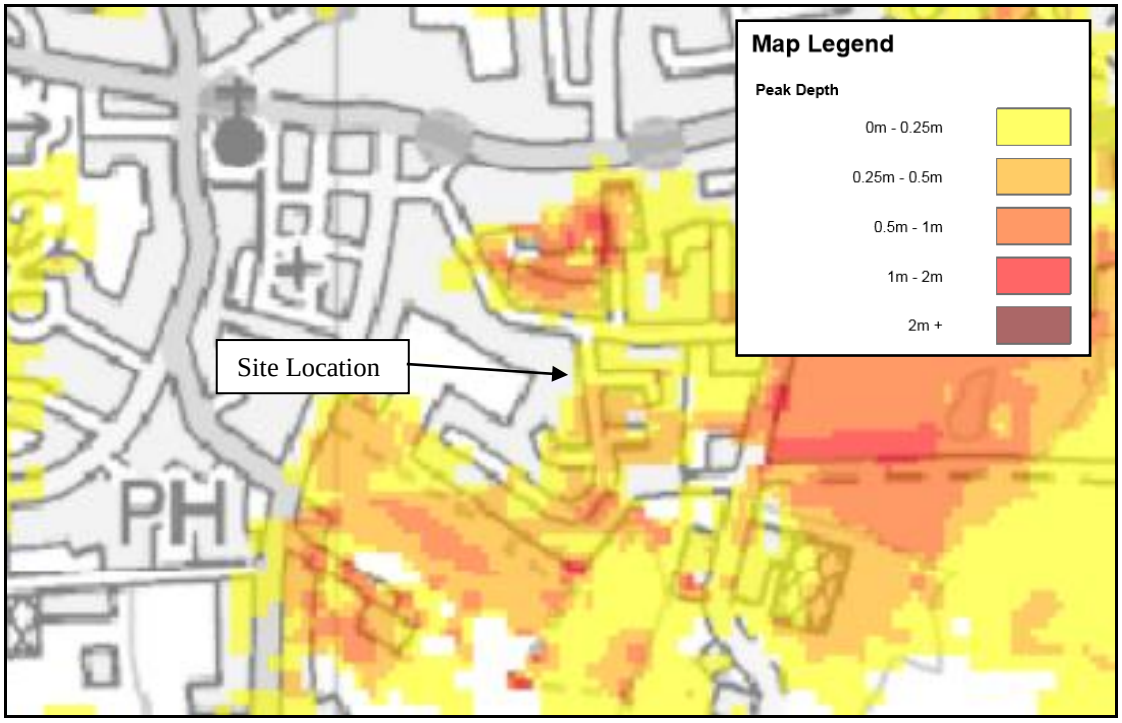


Figure 3 – SFRA 2116 Residual Peak Depth Map

Figure 3 shows that the carriageway of Farrow Road adjacent to the site is at risk during a breach with a depth between 0.0m and 0.25m

5.0 FLOOD RISK MITIGATION

5.1 Summary of Risks

The probability of this development flooding from localised drainage systems is low. Failure of Little Holland Pumping Station or Sutton Bridge Outfall Sluice 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. When a breach during the 0.5% annual probability (1 in 200 chance each year) tidal event is considered, the site is not at risk however Farrow Avenue adjacent to the site is 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

Based upon the information available during the preparation of this flood risk assessment it is recommended that finished floor levels are 0.3m above surrounding ground levels and not less than 0.3m above the carriageway level of Farrow Avenue. It is recommended that there is 0.3m of flood resilient construction above finished floor level.

The risk of flooding is lowered as the proposed dwellings are 2 storeys with all sleeping accommodation on the first floor.

The developer should ensure that the eventual occupiers of the dwellings are 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 dwellings should register to receive flood warnings.

Should there be a failure of Little Holland Pumping Station or Sutton Bridge Outfall Sluice 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 using 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 two 2 storey residential dwellings on Barrington Gate, Holbeach.

- The site is located within an Internal Drainage Board catchment and through the operation and maintenance of the pumping stations and the channel system the Board seek to maintain a general standard capable to providing flood protection to agricultural land and developed areas of 1 in 20 and 1 in 100 years, respectively.

- The proposed development is in Flood Zone 2. The site benefits from defences on the Wash, River Nene, and River Welland that provide protection 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.

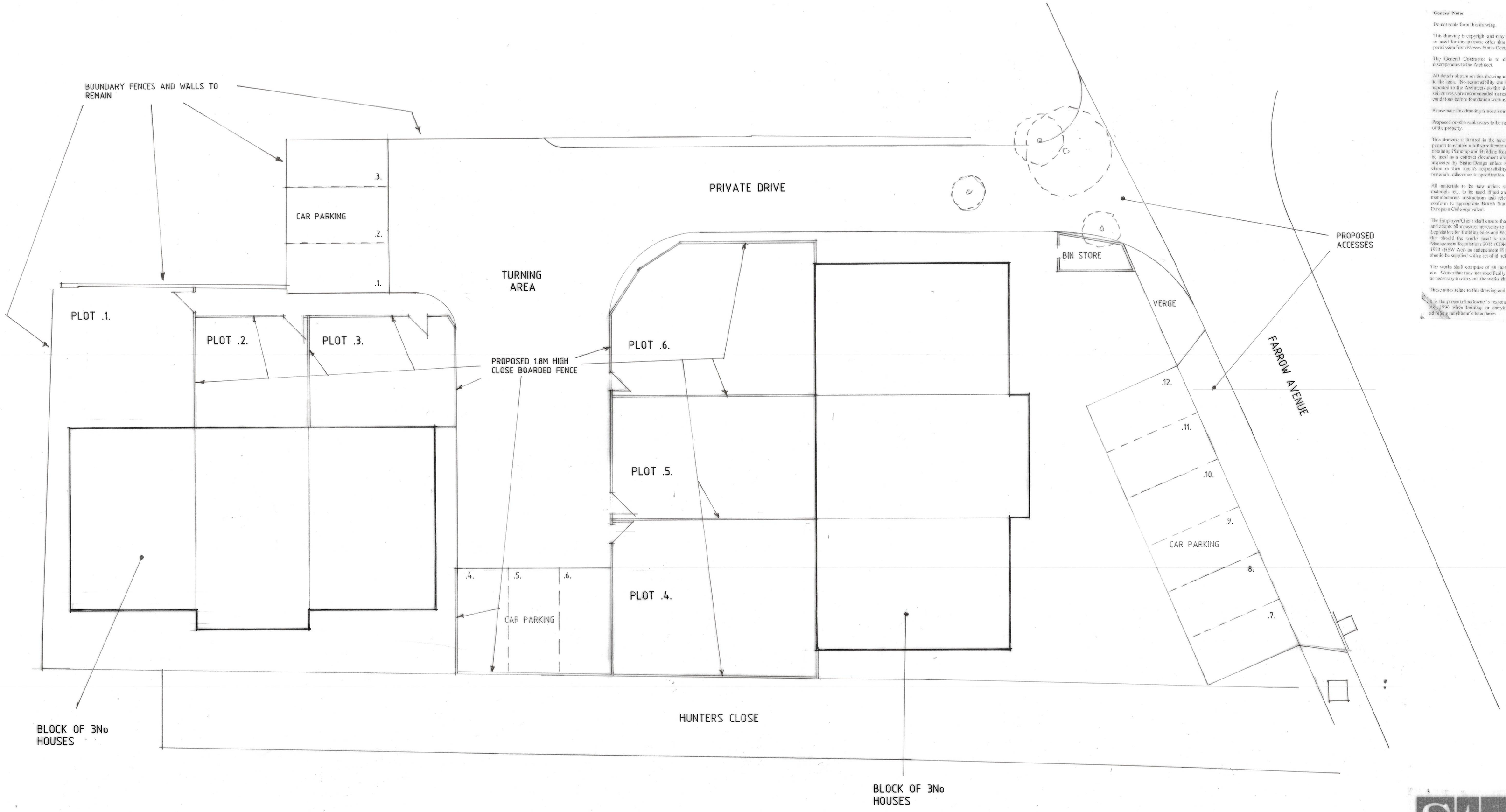
- The site is not at risk should there be a breach during the 1% fluvial / 0.5% tidal annual probability event including climate change.

- It is recommended that the finished floor levels are 0.3m above ground level with 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

SITE LAYOUT
(Dwg SD19-026/2)



NOTES

THIS IS AN INDICATIVE LAYOUT ONLY

EXISTING TREES SHOWN DOTTED & HEDGE FRONTING HUNTERS CLOSE TO BE REMOVED

SITE LAYOUT

THIS DRG. TO BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH SW 22 - 254-100

General Notes

Do not scale from this drawing.

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The General Contractor is to check all dimensions on site and report discrepancies to the Architect.

All details shown on this drawing are based upon typical site conditions related to the area. No responsibility can be accepted for abnormal conditions unless reported to the Architects so that design amendments may be considered. Site soil surveys are recommended in respect of foundations to establish specific site conditions before foundation work is undertaken.

Please note this drawing is not a conveyance drawing.

Proposed on-site soakaways to be maintained by the owner for the life duration of the property.

This drawing is limited in the amount of information contained and does not purport to contain a full specification of the works. It is solely for the purpose of obtaining Planning and Building Regulation approvals. This drawing must not be used as a contract document alone. The works will not be supervised or inspected by Status Design unless specifically contracted to do so. It is the client or their agent's responsibility to control workmanship, substitution of materials, adherence to specification, variations to contract, etc.

All materials to be new unless stated otherwise and all components and materials, etc. to be used, fitted and installed, etc. in strict accordance with manufacturers' instructions and relevant Code of Practise. Materials should conform to appropriate British Standard specification or BBA Certificate or European Code equivalent.

The Employer/Client shall ensure that the selected contractor is conversant with and adopts all measures necessary to achieve compliance with Health and Safety Legislation for Building Sites and Work Places. The Employer/Client is advised that should the works need to comply with the Construction Design and Management Regulations 2015 (CDM) and Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 (HSW Act) an independent Planning Supervisor will be required, whom should be supplied with a set of all relevant drawings, etc.

The works shall comprise of all that shown on the drawings and information, etc. Works that may not specifically be shown but may be reasonably inferred as necessary to carry out the works shall be deemed to be included.

These notes relate to this drawing and all associated drawings.

It is the property/freeholder's responsibility to be aware of the Party Wall, etc. Act 1996 when building or carrying out alterations in close proximity to adjoining neighbour's boundaries.

Status DESIGN
CONSULTANTS IN ARCHITECTURE & PLANNING

PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT FOR 6No HOUSES OFF FARROW AVENUE, HOLBEACH FOR

MR. D. COOK.

SITE LAYOUT

1:100	SD19-026/2
AUG-22	B.GILHAM.

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