

**FLOOD RISK ASSESSMENT
FOR RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AT
WISBECH ROAD, LONG SUTTON**

FINAL REPORT

ECL0642/ALEXANDRA DESIGN

DATE NOVEMBER 2021

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 Risks

5.0 FLOOD RISK MITIGATION

- 5.1 Summary of Risks
- 5.2 Mitigation Measures

6.0 CONCLUSIONS

ATTACHMENT 1 – Location Plan and Site Plans

DISCLAIMER

This document has been prepared solely as a Flood Risk Assessment in support of a planning application for proposed residential development at Wisbech Road, Long Sutton. "Ellingham Consulting Ltd" accepts no responsibility or liability whatsoever for any use made of this document other than by the client "Ms S Gaskin" 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 Ms S Gaskin in respect of a development that consists of one replacement dwelling at Wisbech Road, Long Sutton.

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

2.0 SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

2.1 Site Location

The site is located at 80 Wisbech Road, Long Sutton, Spalding, Lincolnshire, PE12 9AQ. The National Grid Reference of the site is 54424/32130.

The location of the site is shown in Figure 1.

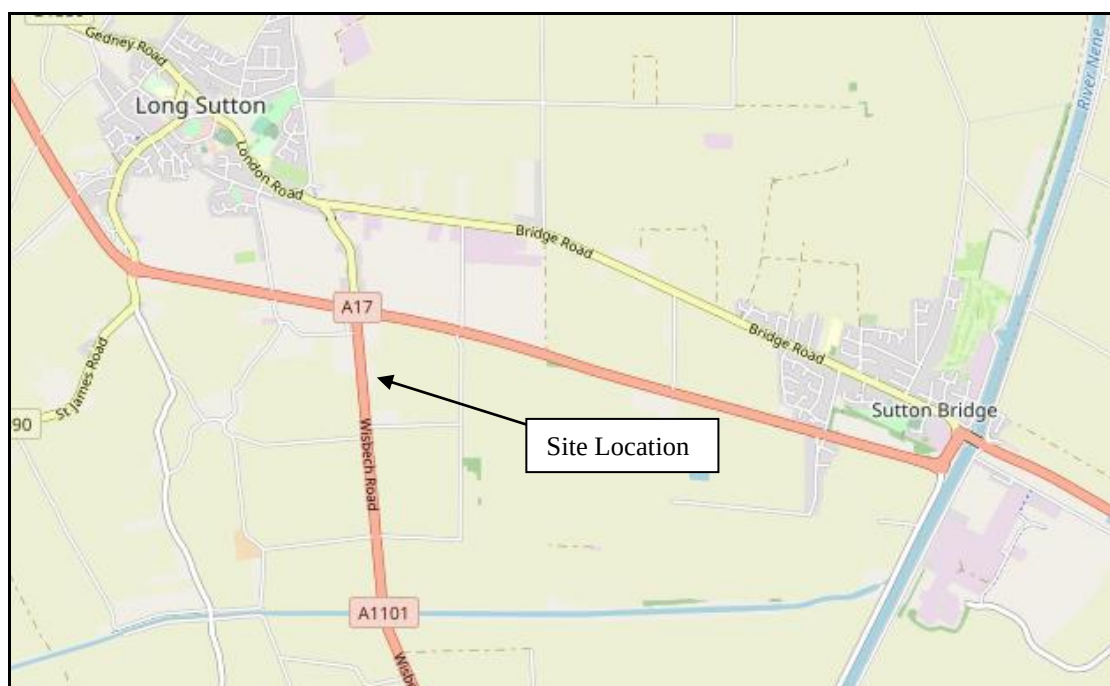


Figure 1 – Location Plan (© OpenStreetMap contributors)

2.2 Existing Site

The site is on the eastern side of Wisbech Road. The southern part of the site consists of a bungalow, several outbuildings, and paddocks. The northern part of the site includes a pond. The site has two points of access to Wisbech Road. The area of development is approximately 1.15 hectares.

Environment Agency LIDAR information shows that ground levels in the southern part of the site range between +3.2m OD and +3.7m OD. Ground levels in the area of the proposed dwelling are typically +3.7m OD. Ground levels in the northern part of the site vary with the lowest level approximately +2.5m OD.

The site is in the South Holland Internal Drainage Board (IDB) District. Surface water at the site naturally drains through soakaway and hence to the IDB drain system. There are IDB High Priority Watercourses on the western side of Wisbech Road and 300m east of the site.

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

2.3 Proposed Development

The proposed development consists of a replacement dwelling. The dwelling will be two storey and use the existing vehicular access. The bungalow at the site will be demolished. 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.

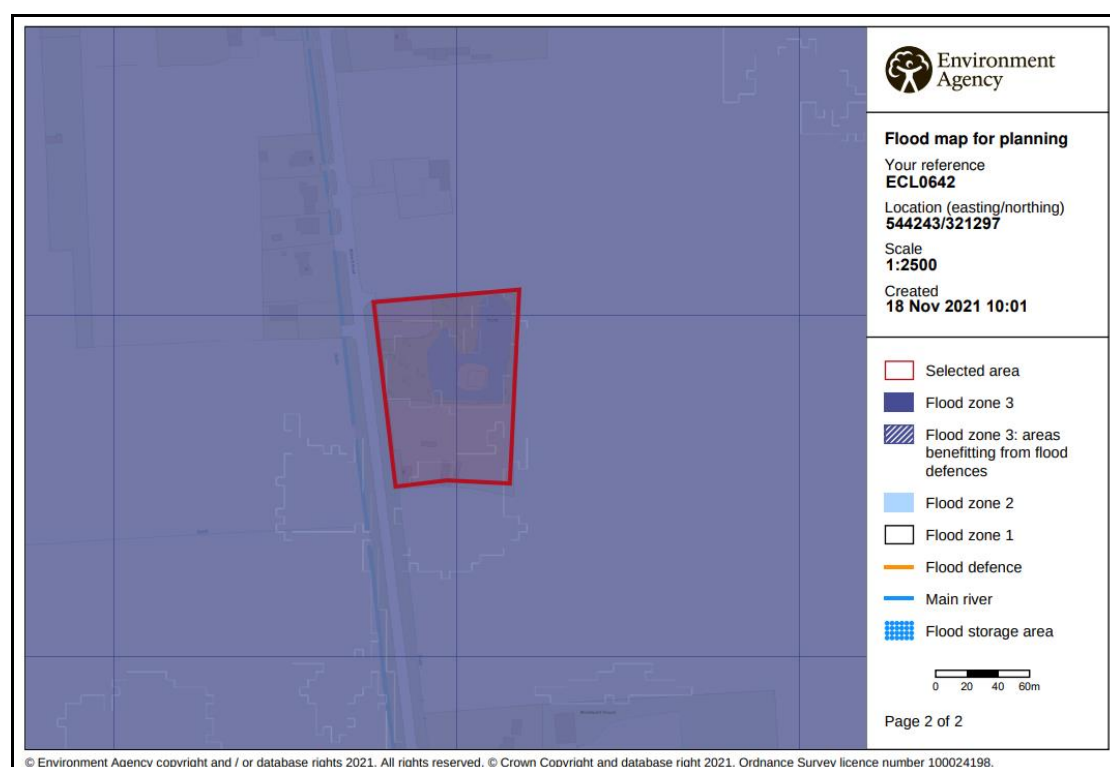


Figure 2 – Environment Agency Flood Map for Planning

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 is not within an area at risk of surface water flooding; 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	Part of the site is in the 'Low Hazard' area	The site is in the 'Danger for Most' area
Residual Peak Depth Map for the 1% fluvial and 0.5% tidal	Part of the site has a peak flood depth between 0.0m and 0.25m	The peak flood depth is between 1m and 2m.

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 proposed development is a replacement dwelling and therefore it is not necessary to apply the Sequential Test to the development.

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

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 site is 3.7km west of the tidal River Nene. The site is protected by the River Nene tidal defences between Wisbech and Sutton Bridge. The River Nene is 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 are IDB High Priority Watercourses on the western side of Wisbech Road and 300m east of the site. The site and the surrounding land are within the Free Discharge catchment and drain to the South Holland Main Drain and discharge to the tidal River Nene at the Sutton Bridge Outfall Sluice. The site is 1.5km north of the South Holland Main Drain.

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 South Holland IDB drainage system;
- an event in the local drainage network greater than exceeds the standard of protection;
- failure of Sutton Bridge Outfall Sluice; and
- overtopping and/or breaching of the tidal River Nene.

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 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 benefits from defences on the River Nene that provide protection during a 0.5% annual probability (1 in 200 chance each year) tidal event and a 1% annual probability (1 in 100 chance each year) fluvial event.

4.4 Historic Flooding

During the preparation of this assessment, no evidence was discovered of the site being flooded.

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 flood levels in the River Nene.

The River Nene tidal defences have been designed to include an allowance for climate change. In summary the site is not at risk for the design life of the development (i.e., 100 years).

4.6 Residual Risk

There is a residual risk of flooding at the site should a breach occur. The South East Lincolnshire SFRA includes maps demonstrating the residual peak depth in 2116. When climate change allowances are applied to the 1% annual probability (1 in 100 chance each year) fluvial event and 0.5% annual probability (1 in 100 chance each year) tidal event the peak depth at the site from direct overtopping together with breach failure is between 1m and 2m. An extract from this map is shown in Figure 3 below.



Figure 3 – SFRA 2116 Residual Peak Depth Map

The depth of flooding in the area of the proposed dwelling is between 0.0m and 0.5m. Based upon the extent and depths of flooding in Figure 3 and the Environment Agency LiDAR ground levels a conservative estimate of the breach level is +4.1m OD.

5.0 FLOOD RISK MITIGATION

5.1 Summary of Risks

The probability of this development flooding from localised drainage systems is low. Failure of 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 1% annual probability (1 in 100 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.

The SFRA considers the residual risk associated with overtopping and a breach in the defences in 2116. The maps show that the peak flood depth in the area of the proposed dwelling is 0.5m.

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 0.5m above surrounding ground level and not less than +4.1m OD. Furthermore, it is recommended that there is 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 provides a Flood Warning Service which includes Flood Warning Codes and uses direct warning methods where the risks and impacts of flooding are high.

In addition to direct and indirect flood warnings, the Environment Agency operates a 24 hour a day Floodline Service providing advice and information on flooding. The occupier of the dwelling should register with the Floodline Direct Warnings Service to receive any future flood warnings.

Should there be a failure of 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 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.

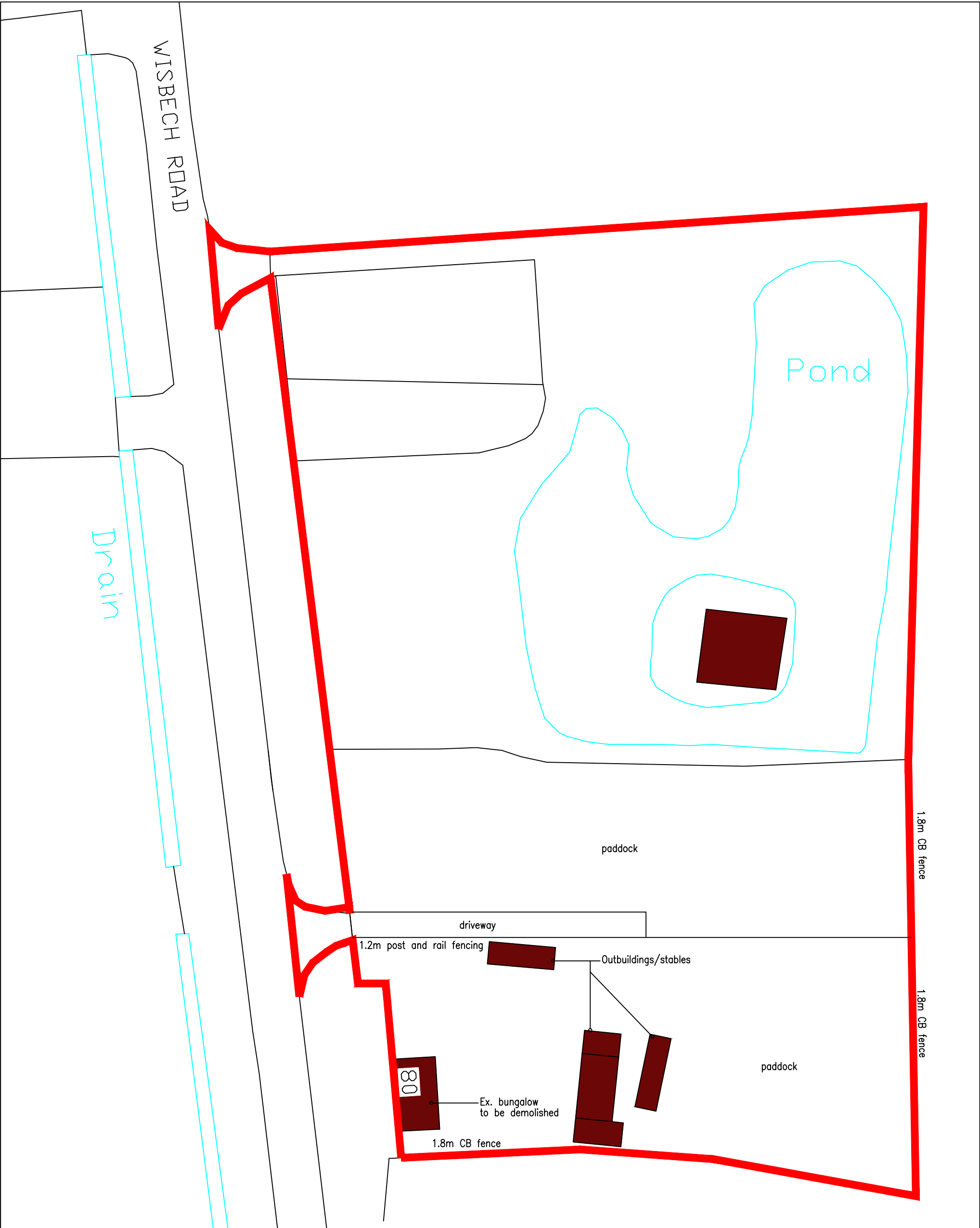
6.0 CONCLUSIONS

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

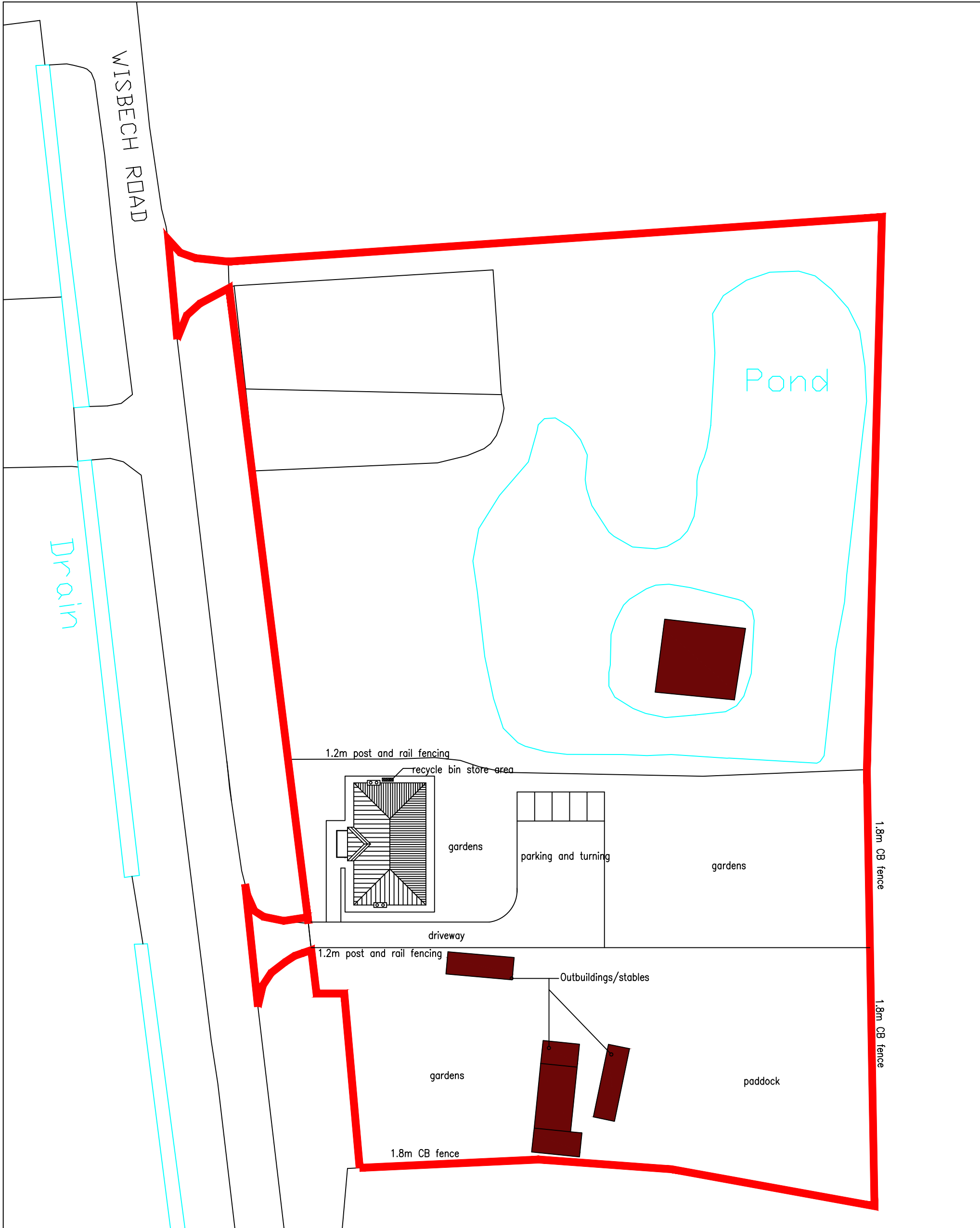
- The proposed development consists of a 2-storey replacement dwelling at 80 Wisbech Road, Long Sutton.
- The proposed development is in Flood Zone 3. The site benefits from defences on the tidal River Nene that provide protection during the 0.5% annual probability (1 in 200 chance each year) tidal event. During the design life of the development, including an allowance for climate change, it is not anticipated that there would be flooding at the site.
- 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).
- During a breach of the tidal defences in 2115 the depth of flooding in the area of the proposed dwelling is up to 0.5m
- It is recommended that the finished floor level is 0.5m above surrounding ground levels and not less than +4.1m OD 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

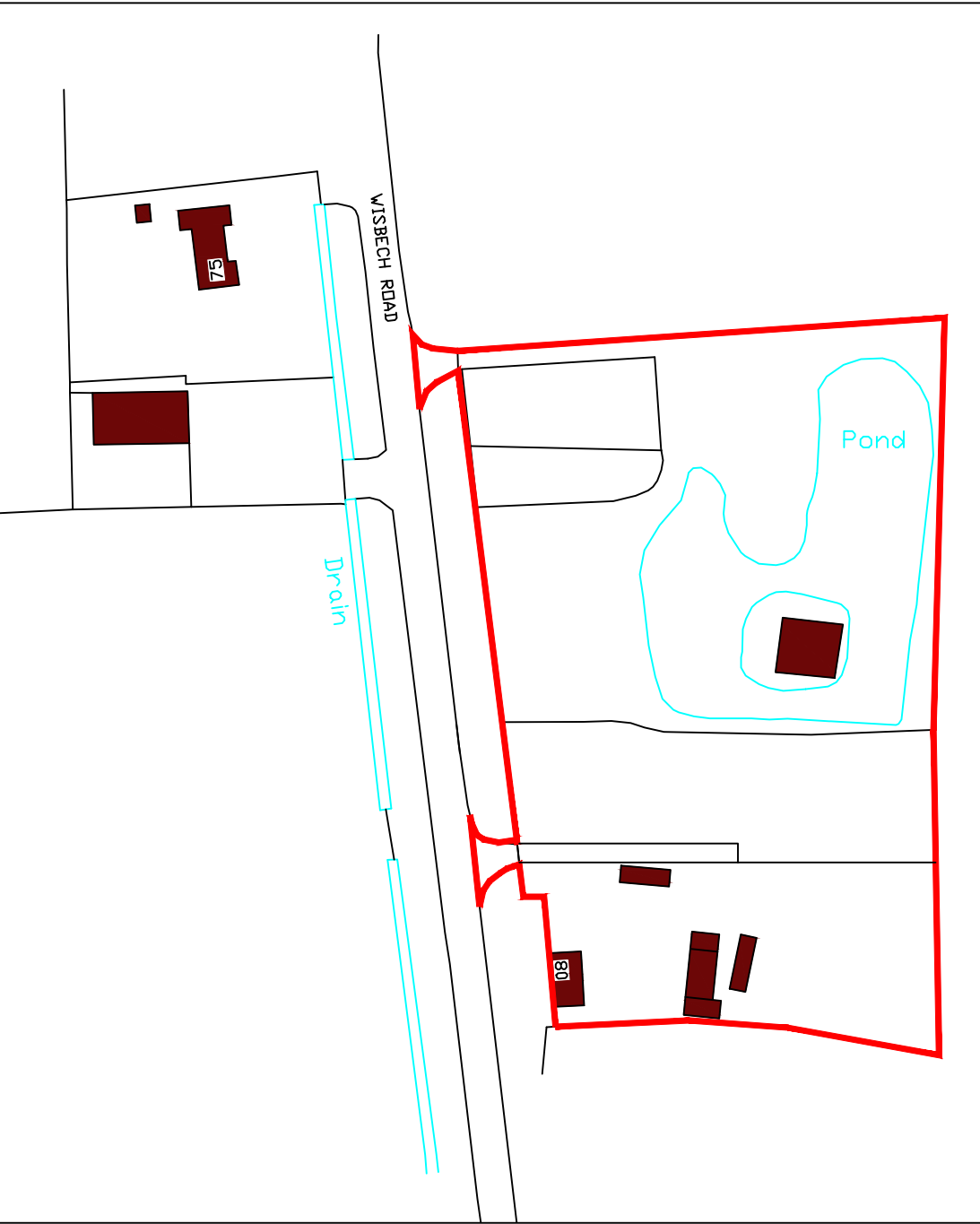
LOCATION PLAN AND SITE PLANS



Existing Site Plan 1:500



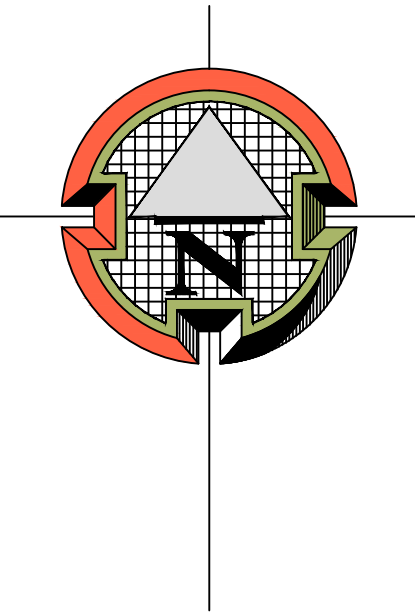
Proposed Site Plan 1:500



Existing Location Plan 1:1250

General Notes:

- Dimensions on all drawings are shown in "mm".
- The contractor,sub-contractor and supplies must verify all dimensions before commencement of any works on site.
- This drawing is to be read in conjunction with any relevant engineers and specialist sub-contractor drawings and specifications.



Revisions:

Reference: sketch	Pages: 1
Scale: as shown	
Project: Proposed demolition of ex. bungalow with replacement 5 bed house	
Site Address: 80 WISBECH ROAD, PE12 9AQ LONG SUTTON SPALDING PE12 9AQ	

Client:

Mr and Mrs Gonzalez



Southfork Farm
Seadyke Bank
Murrow
Cambridgeshire
PE13 4SD

T: 07891175649
E: info.alexandradesign@gmail.com