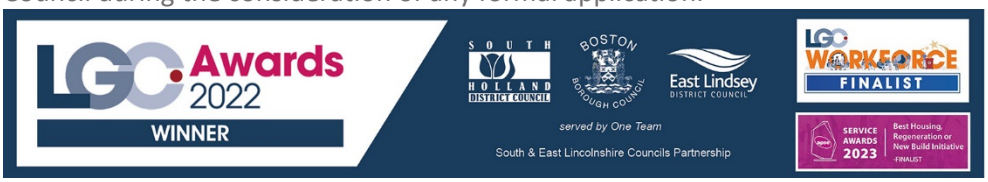
Burrell, Becky

From: Grant, David
Sent: 17 June 2024 11:57
To: _planningadvice
Subject: FW: Marriott Farm H14-0088-24
Attachments: We sent you safe versions of your files; Marriott Farm_Collaborating for a valuable future_V1.0.pdf

Please add this email to the DIP under 6SUP – Supporting information for Panel.

Many thanks,

Mr David Grant | Senior Planning Officer | South Holland District Council | Direct Dial: 01775 764472
My final day of work at SHDC is Friday the 2nd of August 2024.
www.sholland.gov.uk | www.boston.gov.uk |www.e-lindsey.gov.uk |www.selcp.co.uk
Please note that any informal officer opinion expressed by this email is without prejudice and is not binding on the Council during the consideration of any formal application.



From: Chu Uzokwe <icuzokwe@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 17, 2024 12:03 AM
To: Grant, David <dgrant@sholland.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: Marriott Farm H14-0088-24

Mimecast Attachment Protection has deemed this file to be safe, but always exercise caution when opening files.

Caution: This message originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe. If you believe it is suspicious please forward to Suspicious.Emails@pspsl.co.uk and delete the email.

Dear Mr Grant,

Please find attached a document which I believe will help the Chairman's panel in making a decision . I have outlined the following :

1. How the home will collaborate with the local community to build a valuable future for children in its care
2. Potential solutions to the objections raised by the local community. For instance where locals have complained about a loss of peace and tranquility the solution proposed is having the local community designate someone to sit on the home's Advisory committee where they can support with strategic advice and collaborative input (such as which children from the Lincolnshire area would be best suited for the home and local area).
3. Why setting up the home is personal to me .

I would appreciate it if I could get the emails of the other individuals that will sit in on the Chairman's panel so that I can send a copy of this document to each of them.

Kind regards,
Chu Uzokwe
07990560111

On Thu, Jun 13, 2024 at 2:23 PM Grant, David <dgrant@sholland.gov.uk> wrote:

> Dear Mr Uzokwe,
>
> Thank you for your email. My name is David Grant and I am the allocated Planning Officer for this application. Robert Barlow is currently on leave and is unable to respond to your email..
>
> Thank you for your supporting email and the information you have submitted thus far. The supporting information you have provided will be represented in my Officer Report.
>
> As I confirmed in our recent telephone conversation, it is my intention to present my report at the Chairman's Panel of Friday the 28th of June.
>
> If the Panel do not believe the application requires further scrutiny at a monthly planning committee then a delegated decision can be issued.
>
> If the Panel feel that the application requires further discussion then this application will likely go to the next available planning committee which will sit on the 17th of July 2024 at 18:30. If the report is not presented at that meeting then the next meeting is the 4th of September 2024 at 18:30.
>
> If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me.
>
> Yours Sincerely,
>
> **Mr David Grant | Senior Planning Officer | South Holland District Council | Direct Dial: 01775 764472**
> www.sholland.gov.uk | www.boston.gov.uk |www.e-lindsey.gov.uk |www.selcp.co.uk
>
> Please note that any informal officer opinion expressed by this email is without prejudice and is not binding on the Council during the consideration of any formal application.



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2024



Marriott Farm- A Valuable Future

A PATHWAY TO COLLABORATION WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

CHU UZOKWE

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Marriott Farm-Collaborating to Excel 3

Marriott Farm- A Different World 4

Theory of Change Model: 4

What will the care home do? 5

Building Trust: 5

Social Value: 5

What will the Outcome be? 6

Marriott Farm- Unum Fiat Ex Pluribus 7

1. Potential Problem - Loss of Peace and Tranquillity 7

Solution: Advisory Committee 8

2. Potential Problem**:** Isolation of Property & Safety Concerns 8

Solution: Full time Health Care Professional 9

3. Potential Problem**:** Significant Increase in traffic movements 9

Solution: Transport Plan 9

Marriott Farm – A valuable Future for Young Children 10

PREAMBLE-HISTORY

My involvement in purchasing Marriott Farm and turning it into a Children's Care Home is a personal one. Over a century ago, an orphan in Sub -Saharan Africa who eked out a living wrestling was sighted by the English District Officer, Mr Dulin during the local wrestling festival. The wrestler was young – about ten years old and bore the scars of the smallpox epidemic which had robbed him of his parents. He was known in the local parlance as "Amalinze- the cat" as his back never touched the ground and he won wrestling match after wrestling match. After a match he was introduced to Dulin who was won over by his confidence and charm. During their translated conversation, Dulin discovered he was an orphan who had never been to school. Dulin took him in as his ward and funded his education right till the end of secondary school. This orphan was my grandfather, Thomas.

My grandfather became a carpenter. He built churches and homes across what is now West Africa. His mindset had been transformed to acknowledge the importance of two things: A first-class education and financial independence. When my father, John Uzokwe turned 15 following the end of his secondary school education, my grandfather sent him to Newcastle, England to study for his A levels (a then unheard-of feat given most foreign students were recipients of government scholarships). My father won the best student award with 4 A levels: 3 A's and a B. My grandfather funded his subsequent education at Newcastle University where my father studied Economics and Loughborough University where he took a Master's in Industrial Management. My father became a Chartered Accountant and became the First African Finance Director (Sub-Saharan Africa) of Peugeot Automobile, the car manufacturing company with a seat on the Board of Directors in France.

This belief in a child with a seemingly hopeless future by Mr Dulin and his subsequent investment in an education for my grandfather transformed the trajectory of my grandfather's life and that of his future generations yet unborn (next year, following a gap year in Japan, Thomas's great grandson will begin an Economics degree at Harvard University). Dulin helped build the path to a valuable future.

I want to make a difference in the lives of young people from the Lincolnshire Area by creating an environment where children will feel loved and cared for, an environment where their potential for doing great things will be harnessed and developed.

MARRIOTT FARM-COLLABORATING TO EXCEL

I have always believed that our environment is the invisible hand that shapes our behaviour. Despite our unique personalities, certain behaviours tend to rise again and again under certain environmental conditions. This is certainly the case with most children's care homes. Due to a reluctance in a lot of communities to the presence of children's homes within their areas, most children care homes are in run down, deprived areas with the attendant result that the children in these homes take on the behaviour prevalent in these environments and with increasing rates of recidivism, society bears the consequences.

At Marriott Farm, my aim is to create a space that feels well cared for, warm and calming with a layout that encourages a sense of safety, opportunities for play, creativity and shared activities with others. As a result, interventions can be more purposeful, thoughtful and with more positive outcomes.

However, I cannot achieve this alone. The contribution of the local community is important. Through dialogue, an understanding of the concerns of the local community and taking those concerns into consideration in the day-to-day operations of the home, I believe the home and the community can build the path to a valuable future for the children at Marriott Farm. This document sets out how the home aims to do that and how it will operate in a manner that recognises and addresses local concerns in its daily operations.



MARRIOTT FARM- A DIFFERENT WORLD

In looking to understand how successful children's home things did differently, I studied the activities of children's homes across Europe

Two homes stood out:

1. The Josephine Schneider home in Denmark : An article in the Guardian best describes the activities of the home Guardian Article.
2. In addition, here is a link to the home: Josephine Schneider Home



3. Lighthouse Pedagogy Trust, a UK home which has used the Josephine Schneider home as its blueprint for running a successful home: https://lptrust.org.uk/



Both homes incorporate the following model into their concept of care:

THEORY OF CHANGE MODEL:

The theory of change model asks three key questions:

- What problems the care home is trying to fix?
- What will the care home do?
- What will the outcome be?

WHAT WILL THE CARE HOME DO?

- CONTEXTUAL SAFEGUARDING:

  The concept of contextual safeguarding is different from the traditional safeguarding model in that it recognises that children are also at risk outside the home. The risk can come from friends, schools, neighbourhoods etc. While the traditional safeguarding model places the risk within the home. The contextual safeguarding model which will be incorporated in our home takes the blame away from the individual and addresses the root cause of the problem. Each child in the home will have a personalised care plan (i.e. A-B plan). This details what happens from the moment a child or young person arrives in the home to when they leave. This will be detailed in the safeguarding handovers and included in the operations plan.

CO-PRODUCTION:

The concept of co-production builds on the UNHCR rights of the child. Co-production focuses on building an ethos around the home where young people in the home help with designing what care in the home should look like. It emphasises demonstrating a welcoming environment with love and compassion. It stresses that children should enjoy the creature comforts of living in a home which in a lot of care homes they don't.

BUILDING TRUST:

The home will engage in activities to build trust with young people in the home. Building trust will be one of the guiding principles of the home. It is important to meet young people where they are at. We will focus on making young people feel like they belong. The following activities will be undertaken:

- Including young people in the design of the home – planting trees in the grounds, decorating rooms etc
- Taking kids to events & incorporating travel into their itinerary
- Advocating excellence in education and/or sport

SOCIAL VALUE:

Social values will be built around the home's principles. Marriott Farm is keen to develop a social value to the Spalding community i.e. the home will have a vested interest in the local area. This involves children and young people in the home volunteering one day a week to help within the local community.

WHAT WILL THE OUTCOME BE?

The home will have an exit plan for every child. Dependent on the child's skills sets, this will include continuing to higher education or learning a Skill. The exit plan will be put in place a year before the child leaves the home.

While in the home, young people will be given an understanding of finances, employability and entrepreneurial training courses. The courses will focus on upskilling.

In this regard we are already building connections to collaborate with the following institutions to achieve the home's proposed outcomes.

- Purpose (www.Purpose.com),-This helps young people in defining a purpose for their lives
- Mybnk (https://www.mybnk.org/) -This helps young people understand finances
- The Economist Educational Foundation: Economist Foundation . It focuses on educating and moulding young minds.

MARRIOTT FARM- UNUM FIAT EX PLURIBUS

Cicero once paraphrased Pythagoras stating "when each person loves the other as much as himself, it makes one out of many ". This highlights the communal bonds which help in building vibrant and strong communities and individuals. I believe that a cornerstone of Marriott Farm's success will be in building strong bonds with the Spalding community. Working in collaboration with the local community is very important to us.

I fully appreciate that people will be apprehensive about the intended use of the home and that this can cause uncertainty, I have spent time to build and nurture relationships with trusted Charities which are respected. I have been taking guidance and am currently working with Ghino Parker, a Director of Barnardo's, partnering in this way will deepen the home's impact for better outcomes for young people in the home as well as the local community in which the home operates.

I have spent time, reading and understanding the concerns of the local community. As a homeowner, I understand these concerns. I hope the following help assuage these concerns. My aim is to find a way to resolve the impasse.

1. **POTENTIAL PROBLEM - LOSS OF PEACE AND TRANQUILLITY** – There are concerns that the home will result in an increase in noise and tranquillity



As can be seen from the google maps, this potential problem was taken into consideration upon the purchase of Marriott Farm. The property has one neighbour in its immediate vicinity and is then surrounded on other sides by farmland. The previous occupant of the property had five children (the home will have three) and built an incredible relationship with the farmer who owned and farmed the land behind the property so much so that he allowed her children play cricket on a patch of his land which adjoined theirs. We aim to build on this relationship between neighbours.



SOLUTION: ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Marriott Farm will have an advisory committee comprised of Ghino Parker , a Director of Barnardo's , myself, Pearl Uzokwe who sits on the board of the Malala Fund Malala Board, the Malala Foundation was set up by Malala Yousafzai, the youngest recipient of the Nobel prize and focuses on educating girls. There will be two other seats on the committee, I would like the community to designate someone to sit on the committee where they can support with strategic advice and collaborative input (such as which children from the Lincolnshire area would be best suited for the home).

2. POTENTIAL PROBLEM: ISOLATION OF PROPERTY & SAFETY CONCERNS

There are residents concerned about the isolation of the property and safety concerns if emergency or other healthcare professionals were required to attend the home. This concern contrasts with the concern raised earlier around loss of peace and tranquillity as it would be difficult for an isolated property to cause the amount of noise that would result in a loss of peace and tranquillity. Again, as mentioned earlier, the previous owners had five wonderful children who bought the home to ensure the children had the room to explore the country in contrast to the city of London. They confirmed they certainly did that and as also evidenced by the outdoor activity equipment I saw on purchasing the home. We will only have three children in the home who we believe would equally thrive in such an environment.

SOLUTION: FULL TIME HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL

In addition to having an OFSTED certified Manager and Responsible Individual and support staff, there will be a health professional who will reside in the home permanently. All staff will be trained in first aid and the health professional will ensure that in the unlikely event of an emergency there is someone there to take charge of the situation.

3. POTENTIAL PROBLEM: SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN TRAFFIC MOVEMENTS

There are concerns that the children's home's staff and visitors will create a significant increase in traffic movements so the suitability of the location must be questioned.

SOLUTION: TRANSPORT PLAN

We have provided a transport plan which staggers the arrival and exit of staff to the home to ensure there will not be a marked increase in traffic movements. Furthermore, the Highway and Lead Local Flood Authority report in assessing Marriott Farm's application (see South Holland planning website SUDS consultation 29/05/2024) states the following:

*"*Recommendation: No objection. The proposed development would not be expected to have an unacceptable impact upon highway safety or a severe residual cumulative impact upon the local highway network or increase surface water flood risk and therefore does not wish to *object to this planning application"*

MARRIOTT FARM – A VALUABLE FUTURE FOR YOUNG CHILDREN

I hope that Marriott Farm will be given the opportunity to make a positive impact on the lives of children and young people from the Lincolnshire area: children and young people with seemingly hopeless futures who might otherwise not have the opportunity to excel.

In collaboration with the local community, Marriott Farm aims to put the children in its care on the right path, a path that's built on principle which will lead to young people flourishing as better citizens in their communities. We ask the committee to allow these young people to embark on this journey.

I believe these young children can have a valuable future with the concept of care that will be in place in the home. I humbly ask that the committee embraces and protects this future. It will make you proud one day.



Side view of Marriott Farm showing no neighbours in immediate vicinity



Kitchen/sitting room inside Marriott Farm



Photo : Back garden in Marriott Farm overlooking the farming fields