

DECISION DELEGATED TO DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

Application No: H14-0407-20 **Applicant:** Greencell Ltd.
Proposal: Proposed Roof Mounted Photovoltaic Panels
Location: Greencell Holly Lodge West Marsh Road
Terminal Date: 3rd May 2021

Planning Policies

South East Lincolnshire Local Plan - Adopted: March 2019

National Guidance

National Planning Policy Framework 2019

Class J - installation or alteration etc of solar equipment on non-domestic premises

Class J, Part 14 of the General Permitted Development Order (2015)

Representations:

	Object	Support	No Obj.	Comments
PARISH COUNCIL	0	0	0	0
WARD MEMBER	0	0	0	0

CASE OFFICER ASSESSMENT

PROPOSAL

This is a prior approval application for proposed roof mounted solar photovoltaic panels at Greencell, Holly Lodge, West Marsh Road, Pinchbeck. The panels are on the east / west facing roof elevations of the building, which has recently been constructed at the north of the site under reference H14-0858-19.

SITE DESCRIPTION

The proposal site is within the defined settlement limits of Pinchbeck and within an industrial area. The surrounding area is characterised by buildings of varying ages, design and size, with the A16 located to the east of the site.

HISTORY

H14-0463-19

Full - New warehouse for the storing and ripening of avocados - Approved - 15 August 2019.

H14-0858-19

Full - New warehouse for storing and ripening of avocados - Approved- 02 December 2019.

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

None.

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

Class J, Part 14 of the General Permitted Development Order (2015)

The installation, alteration or replacement of -
(a) microgeneration solar thermal equipment on a building;
(b) microgeneration solar PV equipment on a building; or
(c) other solar PV equipment on the roof of a building,
other than a dwellinghouse or a block of flats.

J.1 Development is not permitted by Class J if -

(a) the solar PV equipment or solar thermal equipment would be installed on a pitched roof and would protrude more than 0.2 metres beyond the plane of the roof slope when measured from the perpendicular with the external surface of the roof slope;

(b) the solar PV equipment or solar thermal equipment would be installed on a flat roof, where the highest part of the solar PV equipment would be higher than 1 metre above the highest part of the roof (excluding any chimney);

(c) the solar PV equipment or solar thermal equipment would be installed on a roof and within 1 metre of the external edge of that roof;

(d) in the case of a building on article 2(3) land, the solar PV equipment or solar thermal equipment would be installed on a roof slope which fronts a highway;

(e) the solar PV equipment or solar thermal equipment would be installed on a site designated as a scheduled monument; or

(f) the solar PV equipment or solar thermal equipment would be installed on a listed building or on a building within the curtilage of a listed building.

J.2 Development is not permitted by Class J(a) or (b) if -

(a) the solar PV equipment or solar thermal equipment would be installed on a wall and would protrude more than 0.2 metres beyond the plane of the wall when measured from the perpendicular with the external surface of the wall;

(b) the solar PV equipment or solar thermal equipment would be installed on a wall and within 1 metre of a junction of that wall with another wall or with the roof of the building; or

(c) in the case of a building on article 2(3) land, the solar PV equipment or solar thermal equipment would be installed on a wall which fronts a highway.

J.3 Development is not permitted by Class J(c) if the capacity of the solar PV equipment installed (together with any solar PV equipment installed under Class J(b)) to generate electricity exceeds 1 megawatt.

When assessed against the above criteria the following can be observed:

J.1.(a) The panels do not protrude more than 0.2 metres beyond the plane of the roof slope.

J.1.(b) No solar equipment is to be installed on a flat roof.

J.1.(c) None of the solar equipment is within 1 metre of any roof edge.

J.1.(d) The building is not on Article 2 (3) land.

J.1.(e) The solar panels will not be installed on scheduled monument.

J.1.(f) The solar panels will not be installed on a listed building or within the curtilage of a listed building.

J.2.(a) The solar equipment will not be installed on a wall.

J.2.(b) The solar equipment will not be installed on a wall.

J.2.(c) The solar equipment will not be installed on a building on Article 2 (3) land.

J.3. Electric generation will not exceed 134.4kWp

The proposal is not considered to be a valid prior approval application as the applicant has not complied with Condition J.4.(2)] which states:

"Class J(c) development is permitted subject to the condition that before beginning the development the developer must apply to the local planning authority for a determination as to whether the prior approval of the authority will be required as to the design or external appearance of the development, in particular the impact of glare on occupiers of neighbouring land, and the following sub-paragraphs apply in relation to that application."

A determination was not made before development commenced, therefore the application cannot be considered in its current form.

PLANNING BALANCE

The proposal does not accord with Condition J.4.(2) within Class J, Part 14 of the General Permitted Development Order (2015) as the panels are already in situ.

CONCLUSION

The proposal does not accord with Class J, Part 14 of the General Permitted Development Order (2015) and therefore the recommendation is one of refusal.

Additional Considerations

Public Sector Equality Duty

In making this decision the Authority must have regard to the public sector equality duty (PSED) under s.149 of the Equalities Act. This means that the Council must have due regard to the need (in discharging its functions) to:

A. Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act

B. Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. This may include removing or minimising disadvantages suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic; taking steps to meet the special needs of those with a protected characteristic; encouraging participation in public life (or other areas where they are underrepresented) of people with a protected characteristic(s).

C. Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not including tackling prejudice and promoting understanding.

The protected characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

The PSED must be considered as a relevant factor in making this decision but does not impose a duty to achieve the outcomes in s.149. It is only one factor that needs to be considered, and may be

balanced against other relevant factors.

It is not considered that the recommendation in this case will have a disproportionately adverse impact on a protected characteristic.

Human Rights

In making a decision, the Authority should be aware of and take into account any implications that may arise from the Human Rights Act 1998. Under the Act, it is unlawful for a public authority such as South Holland District Council to act in a manner that is incompatible with the European Convention on Human Rights. The Authority is referred specifically to Article 8 (right to respect for private and family life) and Article 1 of the First Protocol (protection of property).

It is not considered that the recommendation in this case interferes with local residents' right to respect for their private and family life, home and correspondence, except insofar as it is necessary to protect the rights and freedoms of others (in this case, the rights of the applicant). The Council is also permitted to control the use of property in accordance with the general public interest and the recommendation is considered to be a proportionate response to the submitted application based on the considerations set out in this report.