

DECISION DELEGATED TO HEAD OF PLANNING

Application No: H16-0677-25 **Applicant:** Spalding Town Husbands

Proposal: Provision of Balance Flue to Rear Elevation

Location: 7 South Parade Spalding

Terminal Date: 4th September 2025

Planning Policies

South East Lincolnshire Local Plan - Adopted: March 2019

01	Spatial Strategy
02	Development Management
03	Design of New Development
29	The Historic Environment

National Guidance

National Planning Policy Framework December 2024

Sections 12 and 16 of the National Planning Policy Framework (2024)

Representations:

	Object	Support	No Obj.	Comments
WARD MEMBER	0	0	0	0
OTHER STATUTORY BODIES	0	0	0	2

CASE OFFICER ASSESSMENT

Proposal

This application is for the installation of a Balance Flue to the rear elevation of 7 South Parade, Spalding.

Site Description

7 South Parade is one of a block of 4 Grade II listed almshouses dating from the early 20th century. Historic England describe the grouping like so:

"A group of 4 almshouses. 1905. Designed by J B Corby. Red brick with ashlar dressings. Fishscale and plain tile roofs, with decorative ridge tiles and a single ridge stack with 4 decorative pots plus 2 gable stacks with 3 decorative pots (one to right removed). 2 storey, u-plan, with chamfered brick plinth. Set back central block has a continuous lean-to on the ground floor with a central arch over a seat, and flanking 4-light mullion square bays with beyond further arches over single doorways. Above two 3-light mullion window, and above again a central ornate curved gable with a shield and inscription. Either side are single gabled projecting wings. Each with a 3-light canted bay window with mullions, and above a 4-light mullion window, above again a square panel with a shield. Both gables have ornate ashlar coping and column kneelers. The side facades each have a single doorway with a moulded ashlar surround."

The immediate setting of the property is characterised entirely by residential development of late C19th and early C20th design. However, the proposal site is by far the most characterful property in the immediate setting and contributes substantially to the area's overall character.

History

None

Consultation Responses

LCC Historic Places Team

No further archaeological input is necessary for this application.

Planning Considerations

Section 16 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 requires the local planning authority to have special regard to the desirability of preserving listed buildings, their setting, or any features of special architectural or historic interest which they possess.

Section 66 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 require decision makers to have special regard to the desirability of preserving listed buildings or their settings or any features of special architectural or historic interest which they possess as well as the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character or appearance of conservation areas. Any adverse effect on a heritage asset, even if slight or minor, would not preserve the asset or its setting.

Furthermore, the importance of considering the impact of development on the significance of designated heritage assets is expressed in the National Planning Policy Framework (2024) (NPPF). The NPPF advises that development and alterations to designated assets and their settings can cause harm. These policies ensure the protection and enhancement of the historic buildings and environments. Proposals that preserve those elements of the setting that make a positive contribution to or better reveal the significance should be treated favourably.

Section 16 of the National Planning Policy Framework (2024) states that "When considering the impact of a proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset, great weight should be given to the asset's conservation (and the more important the asset, the greater the weight should be). This is irrespective of whether any potential harm amounts to substantial harm, total loss or less than substantial harm to its significance".

As such, Para. 213 of the NPPF sets out that where proposals could lead to 'substantial harm' to a grade II listed designated heritage asset, clear and convincing justification should be necessary and that this justification should be exceptional.

Para. 214 of the NPPF then goes on to confirm that where a proposal would lead to substantial harm to a designated heritage asset, local planning authorities should refuse consent unless it can be demonstrated that the substantial harm is necessary to achieve substantial public benefits that outweigh that harm, or that all of the following apply

- "a) The nature of the heritage asset prevents all reasonable uses of the site; and*
- b) No viable use of the heritage asset itself can be found in the medium term through appropriate marketing that will enable its conservation; and*
- c) Conservation by grant-funding or some form of not for profit, charitable or public ownership is*

demonstrably not possible; and

d) The harm of loss is outweighed by the benefit of bringing the site back into use."

Finally, Policy 29 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan (2019) (SELLP) confirms that in order to respect South Holland's historical legacy all proposals shall conserve and enhance the character and appearance of designated heritage assets. Additionally, Section A of that policy confirms that proposals to change the use of a Listed Building or to alter or extend such a building will be granted where the Local Planning Authority is satisfied that the proposal is in the interest of the building's preservation and does not involve activities or alterations prejudicial to the special architectural or historic interest of the Listed Building or its setting.

With the above in mind, the Local Planning Authority considers the proposal to not represent a form of harm. The proposal would result only in a very small external opening to the rear projecting wing being created and would not materially affect the manner in which the asset is appreciated. The alteration is of such a minor nature that the effect may only be considered neutral.

Other Matters

The Local Planning Authority must consider the impact/harm the proposal has on the significance of the heritage asset as outlined above. It is not the requirement of the Local Planning Authority to assess other matters, such as residential amenity impacts or highway safety within a Listed Building Consent submission or matters that do not relate to the host listed buildings.

The assessment of these other matters and additional elements of a proposal would take place within the Full Planning Permission, should this be required.

Notwithstanding the above, legal acts independent from planning, serve to protect matters outside planning control. Any legal requirements or independent acts that governs these matters must still be followed and are not superseded by the Local Planning Authority grant of listed building consent

Conclusion

For the reasons listed above, this application is deemed to be in accordance with Policy 29 of the SELLP, as well as Section 16 of the NPPF. The recommendation, therefore is to approve.

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.