

Online Comment

Application H16-1099-22
Location 33 RED LION STREET SPALDING PE11 1SX
Proposal Installation of photovoltaic panels to south & west roof slopes

Name Greg Watkinson
Address Conservation Officer

Date Submitted 16-12-22
For/Against Comments

I write wishing to confirm my objections to the proposal as currently configured. Policy 29, Section B states that proposals affecting the conservation area should; "Retain and reinforce local distinctiveness with reference to height, massing, scale, form, materials and plot widths of the existing built environment" and "Assess, and mitigate against, any negative impact the proposal might have on the townscape, roofscape, skyline, and landscape"

This proposal, by virtue of it's intention to place modern photovoltaic cells on a highly visible elevation within a prominent section of the conservation area, fails to respect the standard of visible materials within this portion of the town centre and the slate roof of the host property, which is a common feature of this section of the Conservation Area.

Furthermore, the proposal does not seek to do anything to mitigate against the effect the proposal would have on the roofscape within the conservation area. The addition of photovoltaic cells would represent an unwieldy and highly visible addition to the rooftop and would risk generating a precedent of incongruous additions to visible roof pitches even within sensitive locations within the town centre and conservation area. The deployment of Photovoltaic within the conservation area may be possible, however, it would generally be expected that in all but exceptional circumstances, photovoltaic cells should be restricted to sections of roof not visible from the public realm or at least areas where the visual impact upon public realm views would be mitigated against.