

Online Comment

Application H17-0933-21
Location Orchard Cottage Birds Drove Surfleet PE11 4BE
Proposal Retention of vernacular style cottage as a dwelling house, contrary to the requirement of Condition 2 of planning permission H17-1188-19 for the dwelling to be demolished

Name Ian Marshman, Historic Environment Officer
Address Lincolnshire County Council Lancaster House Lincoln LN1 1XX

Date Submitted 23-09-21
For/Against Comments

This office welcomes proposals to retain and enhance this historic cottage which is of local historical interest and contributes to the character and distinctiveness of the area in line with paragraph 197 of the NPPF.

"In determining applications, local planning authorities should take account of:

- a) the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation;
- b) the positive contribution that conservation of heritage assets can make to sustainable communities including their economic vitality; and
- c) the desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness."

It is recommended that the local planning authority's conservation officer is consulted on any works to repair the cottage to ensure they can enhance and better reveal its significance.

We would also like to note that traditional orchards are an important but threatened part of the fenland historic landscape, which are also worthy of retention and enhancement. Natural England has identified this in their assessment of the 'The Fens' National Character Area which states: "Traditional orchards are inherent to historic landscape character" and recommends that "opportunities to protect orchards and bring them into positive management should be explored, promoted and secured." For more advice on what management would be beneficial we recommend consulting the Tree & Nature Conservation Officer at SHDC, Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust, or the East of England Apples & Orchards Project.