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G R Merchant Ltd
Unit 4 Wrights Mews
12a Park Road
Holbeach
Spalding
PE12 7EE

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

OUTLINE

Reference: H18-0311-26 **Date of Decision:** 27th May 2026

Applicant: Mr & Mrs J Taylor
105 Smeeth Road
Marshland St James
Wisbech
PE14 8JF

Location: Adj. Rose Cottage King John Bank Walpole St Andrew

Description: Erection of 2 Self-Build Dwellings & Garages

South Holland District Council, in pursuance of the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended), hereby give notice that permission has been REFUSED (or equivalent) for the development referred to above, for the following reason(s):

1 The site is located outside any settlement boundary, as shown on the Inset Maps pertinent to Policy 1 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan, 2019 (SELLP). Therefore, the site is within the countryside in planning policy terms, at the bottom of the settlement hierarchy.

Policy 1 of the SELLP restricts development in the countryside, only permitting development in such locations that is necessary to such a location and / or where it can be demonstrated that it meets the sustainable development needs of an area in terms of economic, community or environmental benefits.

It has not been demonstrated that the proposed dwellings are necessary to this location, nor that the development would meet the sustainable development needs of the locality in terms of economic, community or environmental benefits. It is not considered that the proposed contribution of two self-build dwellings weighs sufficiently in favour of the proposal to outweigh the harm that would result from the development. The Council can

demonstrate a 5.5 year housing land supply as of June 2025, which demonstrates that the tilted balance is not engaged and there is no need for the development in this location for the purposes of housing land supply.

Furthermore, figures published in January 2026 show that between 31 October 2022 and 30 October 2025 the Council have met and exceed the requirements of legislation through granting a sufficient supply of Self and Custom Build permissions.

The development would be contrary to Policy 1 of the SELLP which seeks to direct development in accordance with the settlement hierarchy which is set out within the spatial strategy, concentrating on the most sustainable settlements to enable access to everyday facilities and services.

2 Despite the application currently being in outline form, it is considered that the proposal would result in the complete urbanisation of the site and would therefore adversely contradict with the rural character and appearance of the site and surrounding area. The surrounding area, due to its countryside setting, features sporadic examples of existing development with the character being dominated via agricultural fields. It is considered that the development in this regard would be better suited to an urban area.

The development should therefore be refused, being at conflict with Policies 2 and 3 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan (SELLP, 2019) and Paragraph 135 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, December 2024).

3 The site lies within Flood Zone 3 of the Environment Agency's Flood Maps for Planning and Danger for All as outlined in the South Holland Strategic Flood Risk Assessment. The submitted Flood Risk Assessment has not demonstrated that there are no other sites available at a lower risk of flooding. The Flood Risk Assessment contains no evidence that other sites have been considered and discounted which are available to be developed.

As such, the proposed development has not passed the Sequential Test as required by Policy 4 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan, 2019 and Section 14 of the National Planning Policy Framework (December 2024).

Notes:

The determined plans are:

- 4470-26 01A - Site & Location Plans
- 4470-26 - Planning Design & Access Statement
- ECL1797/GR Merchant Ltd - Flood Risk Assessment - March 2026
- 4470-26 - BNG Statement

The Local Planning Authority has acted positively and proactively in determining this application by assessing it against all material considerations, including national guidance, planning policies and representations that have been received during the public consultation exercise. However, the issues are so fundamental to the proposal, due to the harm which has been clearly identified within the reason(s) for the refusal, that approval has not been possible.

DC_FINAL_DECISION - ODB:14

This decision notice, the relevant accompanying report and the determined plans can be viewed online at http://planning.sholland.gov.uk/OcellaWeb/planningSearch



Phil Norman
Assistant Director - Planning and Strategic Infrastructure
South Holland District Council

RIGHTS OF APPEAL

Appeals to the Secretary of State

If you are aggrieved by the decision of your Local Planning Authority to refuse permission for the proposed development or grant consent subject to conditions, then you can appeal to the Secretary of State under Section 78 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 or Section 20 of the Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.

Timescales for appealing

The deadlines for appeals are calculated from the **date of decision** and are as follows for the types of applications below:

12 Weeks	6 Months	8 Weeks
Householder Applications	Planning Permission	Consent to Display Adverts
Minor Commercial Development	Listed Building Consent	
Agricultural Determinations	Other Prior Approval Applications	
Householder Prior Approval Applications		

https://www.gov.uk/appeal-householder-planning-decision

https://www.gov.uk/appeal-planning-decision

If you intend to submit an appeal that you would like examined by inquiry then you must notify the Local Planning Authority and Planning Inspectorate (inquiryappeals@planning inspectorate.gov.uk) at least 10 days before submitting the appeal. Further details are on GOV.UK.

Enforcement Notices

If an enforcement notice was served prior to the planning application being determined then the deadline for appealing is 28 days from the date of the **planning refusal**.

If an enforcement notice is served after the planning application is determined then the deadline for appealing is 28 days from the date of the **enforcement notice** OR **the timescales stated above for each application type** from the date of the planning refusal - whichever is sooner.

Appeals can be made online at: **https://appeal-planning-decision.service.gov.uk/before-you-start**. If you are unable to access the online appeal form, please contact the Planning Inspectorate to obtain a paper copy of the appeal form on tel: 0303 444 5000.

The Secretary of State can allow a longer period for giving notice of an appeal but will not normally be prepared to use this power unless there are special circumstances which excuse the delay in

giving notice of appeal.

The Secretary of State need not consider an appeal if it seems to the Secretary of State that the Local Planning Authority could not have granted planning permission for the proposed development or could not have granted it without the conditions they imposed, having regard to the statutory requirements, to the provisions of any development order and to any directions given under the order.

Purchase Notices

If either the Local Planning Authority or the Secretary of State refuses permission to develop land or grant it subject to conditions the owner may claim that he can neither put the land to a reasonably beneficial use in its existing state nor can he render the land capable of a reasonably beneficial use by the carrying out of any development which has been or would be permitted.

In these circumstances the owner may serve a purchase notice on the Council in whose area the land is situated. This notice will require the Council to purchase his interest in the land in accordance with the provisions of the Part VI of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 or Section 32 of the Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.

Compensation

In certain circumstances compensation may be claimed from the Local Planning Authority if permission is refused or granted subject to conditions by the Secretary of State on appeal or on reference of the application to him.

These circumstances are set out in Section 114 and related provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and Section 27 of the Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.