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## TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 PRIOR NOTIFICATION

**Reference:** H23-0216-25 **Date of Decision:** 25th April 2025  
**Applicant:** Mr A Dickens  
C/O Swann Edwards Architecture Ltd  
Fen Road  
Guyhirn  
Wisbech  
PE13 4AA  
**Location:** Orchard Farm Dowsdale Bank Shepeau Stow Spalding  
**Description:** Proposed conversion of existing agricultural buildings to 10no. dwellings and associated works

**South Holland District Council hereby give notice that permission has been GRANTED (or equivalent) subject to the following condition(s):**

- 1 The development shall be completed within a period of three years from the date of this decision.

Reason: As required by the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015 (or any Order or Statutory Instrument revoking and re-enacting that Order).

- 2 The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the following approved plans and/or documents:
  - PP1000 Rev A - Planning Drawing, Site and Location Plan
  - PP1100 - Planning Drawing, Units 1 & 2, Elevations, Section & Floor Plans
  - PP1200 - Planning Drawing, Units 3 & 4, Elevations, Section & Floor Plans
  - PP1300 - Planning Drawing, Units 5 - 10, Elevations, Section & Floor Plans

Reason: For the avoidance of doubt and in the interests of proper planning.

- 3 The development hereby permitted shall not be commenced until a scheme to deal with any contamination of land or pollution of controlled waters has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority (LPA).

The scheme shall include all of the following measures unless the LPA dispenses with any such requirement in writing:

- i) A preliminary risk assessment (desk study) shall be carried out to identify and evaluate all potential sources of contamination and the impacts on land and/or controlled waters, relevant to the site. The desk-top study shall establish a 'conceptual site model' and identify all plausible pollutant linkages. Furthermore, the assessment shall set objectives for intrusive site investigation works/Quantitative Risk Assessment (or state if none required). A full copy of the desk-top study and a non-technical summary shall be submitted to the LPA without delay upon completion.
- ii) If identified as being required following the completion of the desk-top study, an exploratory site investigation shall be carried out to fully and effectively characterise the nature and extent of any land contamination and/or pollution of controlled waters. It shall specifically include a risk assessment that adopts the Source-Pathway-Receptor principle, in order that any potential risks are adequately assessed taking into account the sites existing status and proposed end use. A full copy of the site investigation and findings shall be forwarded to the LPA without delay upon completion.
- iii) Thereafter, a written method statement detailing the remediation strategy for land contamination and/or pollution of controlled waters affecting the site and a timetable for their completion shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the LPA. This shall include details of the proposed verification plan including compliance criteria and monitoring details.

No deviation shall be made from this scheme without the express written agreement of the LPA. If during redevelopment contamination not previously considered is identified, then the LPA shall be notified immediately and no further work shall be carried out until a method statement detailing a scheme for dealing with the suspected contamination has been submitted to and agreed in writing by the LPA.

Reason: To assess whether the site is polluted and to address any pollution to ensure a satisfactory development. This issue is integral to the development and therefore full details need to be finalised prior to the commencement of works.

- 4 If contamination of land and/or pollution of controlled waters has been identified as a result of investigation undertaken in accordance with Condition 3 above and remediation is required, a full copy of a verification report shall be submitted to, and approved in writing by, the Local Planning Authority prior to the first occupation of the development. The report shall provide verification that the required works regarding contamination have been carried out in accordance with the approved Method Statement(s). Post-remediation sampling and monitoring results shall be included in the closure report to demonstrate that the required remediation objectives and criteria has been fully met.

Note: The applicant is advised that the phased risk assessment required by the Contaminated Land Scheme Condition should be carried out in accordance with the procedural guidance of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 Part 11A.

Reason: To ensure the satisfactory remediation of contaminated land and/or waters.

- 5 Prior to the occupation of the development, details of the proposed boundary treatments, including a schedule of fencing levels, heights and materials, and details of the size and species of any hedging, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. the development shall thereafter be carried out in accordance with the approved details.

Note: Where levels are raised above existing ground levels, the submission shall be supported by cross-sectional drawings showing the relationship with adjoining uses and buildings to enable the Local Planning Authority to be satisfied that sufficient mitigation measures will be in place.

Reason: In the interests of the character and appearance of the development and the amenity of the area in which it is set including the amenity of nearby occupiers.

- 6 Any works which will impact the breeding / resting place of bats, shall not in any circumstances commence unless the local planning authority has been provided with either:

a) a licence issued by Natural England pursuant to Regulation 55 of The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) authorizing the specified activity/development to go ahead; or

b) a method statement relating to a registered site supplied by an individual registered to use a Bat Mitigation Class Licence for Bats; or

c) a statement in writing from the Natural England to the effect that it does not consider that the specified activity/development will require a licence.

Reason: To conserve protected species and allow the Local Planning Authority to discharge its duties under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended), the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). This is required to be a pre-commencement condition as otherwise there would be a risk of harm to protected species and their habitat.

- 7 No development shall commence until a suitable scheme for the provision of bats within the approved development has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The development shall be undertaken in accordance with the approved scheme prior to the commencement of the development hereby permitted and the provision for bats shall be retained thereafter in accordance with the approved scheme.

Reason: To allow for adequate provision for species protected by the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. A pre-commencement condition is necessary to ensure that compensatory provision for European Protected Species is made available and secured within the development prior to construction works being undertaken.

- 8 The cladding utilised in carrying out the development hereby permitted shall match as closely as possible the cladding of the existing buildings on the site.

Reason: In the interests of the architectural and visual integrity of the overall development and the visual amenity of the area in which it is set.

## Notes:

Your attention is drawn to the letter from South Holland Internal Drainage Board dated 20 March 2025. You are advised of the need to comply with the requirements of the Drainage Board, which are covered by their own Bye-laws. You are further advised that any future amendments to this application and/or compliance with Conditions must also respect those Bye-laws. Please contact the Drainage Board directly for further information.

### **Biodiversity Net Gain**

The applicant's attention is drawn to the following Biodiversity Net Gain requirement.

The effect of Paragraph 13 of Schedule 7A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 is that planning permission is deemed to have been granted subject to the "biodiversity gain condition". The effect of this "biodiversity gain condition" is that development granted by this notice must not begin unless:

- (a) a Biodiversity Gain Plan has been submitted to the planning authority, and
- (b) the planning authority has approved the plan, or
- (c) the development is exempt from the biodiversity gain condition.

For guidance on the contents, in respect of the details that must be submitted and agreed by the Local Planning Authority, prior to the commencement of the consented development, please see the GOV.uk website and Planning Practice Guidance.

### Statutory exemptions and transitional arrangements

There are statutory exemptions and transitional arrangements which mean that the biodiversity gain condition does not always apply. These can be found at Paragraph: 003 Reference ID: 74-003-20240214 of the Planning Practice Guidance, which can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/biodiversity-net-gain>.

Based on the information available and submitted in support of this application, the Local Planning Authority considers that the development hereby permitted is exempt and therefore will not require the approval of a biodiversity gain plan, prior to the commencement of development; with the development comprising a statutory exemption as listed below: -

- Prior Approval Applications are exempt from Biodiversity Net Gain.

As such, the development hereby permitted will not be subject to the biodiversity gain condition.

### Irreplaceable habitat

If the onsite habitat includes irreplaceable habitat (within the meaning of the Biodiversity

Gain Requirements (Irreplaceable Habitat) Regulations 2024) there are additional requirements for the content and approval of Biodiversity Gain Plans.

For clarity the LPA do not consider that irreplaceable habitats are present at this site.

The Biodiversity Gain Plan must include, in addition to information about steps taken or to be taken to minimise any adverse effect of the development on the habitat, information on arrangements for compensation for any impact the development has on the biodiversity of the irreplaceable habitat.

The planning authority can only approve a Biodiversity Gain Plan if satisfied that the adverse effect of the development on the biodiversity of the irreplaceable habitat is minimised and appropriate arrangements have been made for the purpose of compensating for any impact which do not include the use of biodiversity credits.

#### Effect of Section 73(2D) of the 1990 Act

Under Section 73(2D) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) where

(a) a biodiversity gain plan was approved in relation to the previous planning permission ("the earlier biodiversity gain plan"), and

(b) the conditions subject to which the planning permission is granted:

(i) do not affect the post-development value of the onsite habitat as specified in the earlier biodiversity gain plan, and

(ii) in the case of planning permission for a development where all or any part of the onsite habitat is irreplaceable habitat within the meaning of regulations made under paragraph 18 of Schedule 7A, do not change the effect of the development on the biodiversity of that onsite habitat (including any arrangements made to compensate for any such effect) as specified in the earlier biodiversity gain plan.

- the earlier biodiversity gain plan is regarded as approved for the purposes of paragraph 13 of Schedule 7A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) in relation to the planning permission.



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

#### **BUILDING REGULATIONS:**

This decision refers only to planning permission as granted under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. The works that you are proposing may also require Building Regulations and this planning

permission does not give authority under Building Regulations to commence work. Please contact the Building Control section for further information on 01775 764557 or [bcadmin@sholland.gov.uk](mailto:bcadmin@sholland.gov.uk)

## 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:

<b>12 Weeks</b>	<b>6 Months</b>	<b>8 Weeks</b>
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](mailto: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://www.gov.uk/planning-inspectorate>. 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.