



DESIGN AND ACCESS STATEMENT

PROPOSED BARN CONVERSIONS

AT

**ORCHARD FARM
DOWSDALE BANK
SHEPEAU STOW
SPALDING
PE12 0UA**

FOR

MR DICKENS

Job No. SE-2198

November 2024

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This Design and Access Statement supports the application for the conversion of existing agricultural buildings to residential. The application is submitted under The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015, Part 3 Class Q (as amended). The application site is located at Orchard Farm, Downsdale Bank, Shepeau Stow, Spalding, PE12 0UA.

2.0 CONTEXT & PROPOSAL

2.1 SITE CONTEXT

The application site is located at Orchard Farm, Dowsdale Bank on the south-eastern side of the highway. At the moment, the buildings proposed to be converted share the access with the farm, although separate parking accesses and parking spaces can be provided.

The impacts of the proposed development on the surrounding area and the contribution it will make to Shepeau Stow have also been considered.

Dowsdale Bank has already got a large number of residential buildings located in the vicinity of the site, both heading north-east towards Shepeau Stow as well as continuing down the road in the south-west direction.

The site is located within Flood Zone 1 of the Environment Agency Maps and as such, a Flood Risk Assessment is not required.

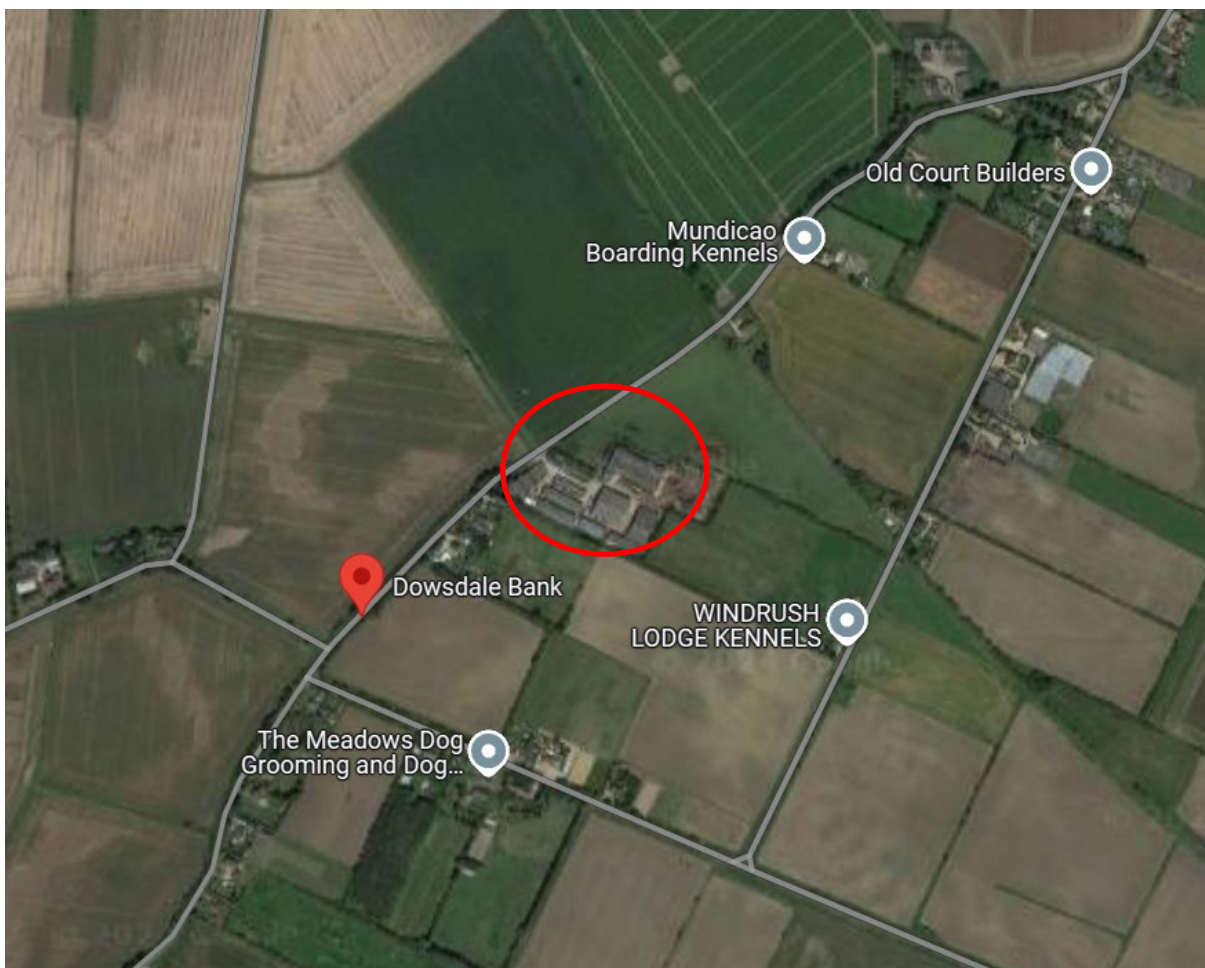


Figure 1: Aerial photograph

2.2 HISTORY

H23-0274-23 – Demolition of Existing Barns and Erection of Four 4 bed 2 storey Detached Dwellings – Approved.

H23-0835-22 – Proposed Conversion of Existing Agricultural Buildings to 5 Dwellings – Approved.

H23-0358-22 – Erection of dwelling

H23-0794-21 – Demolition of existing buildings and erection of 4 dwellings

H23-0594-20 – Proposed Barn Conversion into 5 Dwellings (now demolished)

H23-0174-06 - Erection of steel framed agricultural building (1,284 square metres)

H23-0511-04 - Use of building to establish farm plant to produce poultry and horse bedding

H23-0352-03 - Erection of agricultural dwelling (siting committed)

2.3 PROPOSAL

The application seeks to establish that the agricultural buildings in question can be converted into residential use under Class Q, Part 3 of the General Permitted Development Order. The proposed development is for the subdivision of the buildings to create 10 x dwellings with a floor area of no more than 100m² each.

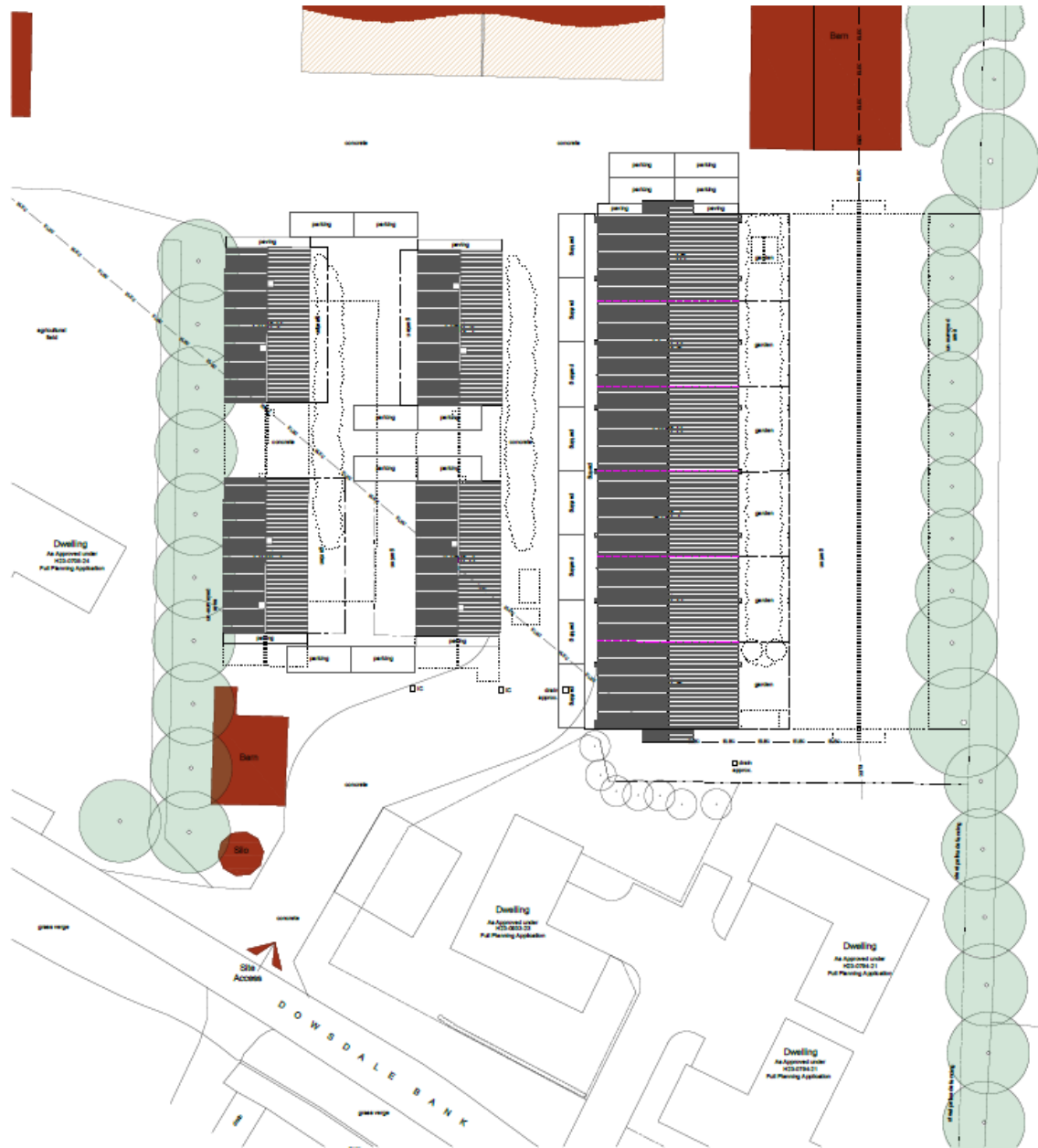


Figure 2: Proposed site plan

2.4 LEGISLATION

The application is submitted The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015, Part 3 Class Q (as amended) which allows for the change of use of agricultural buildings to dwelling houses without the need for planning permission. The requirements of Class Q are set out in the table below, the right hand column details how the proposal complies with the Class Q requirements.

Permitted development

Q. Development consisting of —

Q	Legislation	Proposal
a)	<p>a change of use of—</p> <p>(i) a building that is part of an established agricultural unit and any land within that building's curtilage, or</p> <p>(ii) a former agricultural building that was (but is no longer) part of an established agricultural unit and any land within that building's curtilage,</p>	The existing buildings have always remained in agricultural use and the proposal is for the change of use of the buildings to residential.
	to a use falling within Class C3 (dwellinghouses) of Schedule 1 to the Use Classes Order,	
b)	development referred to in sub-paragraph (a) together with the extension of the building referred to in sub-paragraph (a), or	Yes
c)	development referred to in sub-paragraph (a) together with building operations reasonably necessary to convert the building referred to in sub-paragraph (a) to a use falling within Class C3 (dwellinghouses) of that Schedule or to extend that building	

Development not permitted Q.1

Development is not permitted by Class Q if —

Q1	Legislation	Proposal
a)	<p>in the case of a site that is part of an established agricultural unit, the site was not part of the established agricultural unit—</p> <p>(i) on 24th July 2023, or</p> <p>(ii) where the site became part of the established agricultural unit after 24th July 2023, for a period of at least 10 years before the date development under Class Q begins,</p>	The site is still in use as an agricultural building and this section of the site has always remained in agricultural use.
b)	<p>in the case of a site that was (but is no longer) part of an established agricultural unit—</p> <p>(i) the site was part of an established agricultural unit on 24th July 2023,</p> <p>(ii) where the site ceased to be part of an established agricultural unit after 24th July 2023, the site has not been part of the established agricultural unit for a period of at least 10 years before the date development under Class Q begins, or</p> <p>(iii) since ceasing to be part of an established agricultural unit, the site has been used for any non-agricultural purpose</p>	n/a
c)	the floor space of any dwellinghouse developed under Class Q having a use falling within Class C3 (dwellinghouses) of Schedule 1 to the Use Classes Order exceeds 150 square metres	Proposed 10 x dwellings, each have a floor area of less than 100sqm.
d)	the development under Class Q, together with any previous development under Class Q, within the	Proposed 10 x dwellings, each have a floor area of less than

	<p>original limits of an established agricultural unit (see paragraph Q.3(2) of this Part) would result in—</p> <p>(i)the cumulative number of separate dwellinghouses having a use falling within Class C3 (dwellinghouses) of Schedule 1 to the Use Classes Order exceeding 10, or</p> <p>(ii)the cumulative floor space of dwellinghouses having a use falling within Class C3 (dwellinghouses) of Schedule 1 to the Use Classes Order exceeding 1,000 square metres,</p>	<p>100sqm and the total area for conversion is less than 1000sqm.</p>
e)	<p>the site is occupied under an agricultural tenancy, unless the express consent of both the landlord and the tenant has been obtained;</p>	<p>No</p>
f)	<p>less than 1 year before the date development begins—</p> <p>i) an agricultural tenancy over the site has been terminated, and</p> <p>ii) the termination was for the purpose of carrying out development under Class Q,</p> <p>unless both the landlord and the tenant have agreed in writing that the site is no longer required for agricultural use;</p>	<p>There has been no need to end an agricultural tenancy to facilitate the development.</p>
g)	<p>development under Class A(a) or Class B(a) of Part 6 of this Schedule (agricultural buildings and operations) has been carried out on the established agricultural unit during the period which is 10 years before the date development under Class Q begins,</p>	<p>There has been no other development carried out under Class A(a) of Class B(a) of Part 6 on this agricultural unit since March 2011.</p>
h)	<p>the development would result in the external dimensions of the building extending beyond the external dimensions of the existing building at any given point, other than—</p> <p>(i)extension of the building allowed by paragraph Q.1(i);</p> <p>(ii)protrusions of up to 0.2 metres to accommodate building operations allowed by paragraph Q.1(j)(i),</p>	<p>There are no proposed extensions to the buildings or protrusions which exceed the existing external dimensions.</p>
i)	<p>the development under Class Q(b) would result in an extension that—</p> <p>(i)has more than one storey,</p> <p>(ii)is sited anywhere other than to the rear of the existing building,</p> <p>(iii)extends beyond the rear wall of the existing building by more than 4 metres,</p> <p>(iv)has eaves the height of which exceed the height of the eaves of the existing building,</p> <p>(v)is higher than whichever is the lower of—</p> <p>(aa)the highest part of the roof of the existing building, or</p> <p>(bb)a height of 4 metres above the ground,</p> <p>(vi)extends beyond a wall that forms a side or principal elevation of the existing building, or</p> <p>(vii)would be sited on land that, before the development under Class Q(b), is not covered by a hard surface that was provided on the land by virtue of any development, and—</p> <p>(aa)the hard surface was not provided on the land on or before 24th July 2023, or</p> <p>(bb)where the hard surface was provided on the land after 24th July 2023, the hard surface has not been</p>	<p>n/a</p>

	situated on the land for a period of at least 10 years before the date development under Class Q(b) begins	
j)	the development under Class Q(c) would consist of building operations other than— (i)the installation or replacement of— (aa)windows, doors, roofs, or exterior walls, or (bb)water, drainage, electricity, gas or other services, to the extent reasonably necessary for the building to function as a dwellinghouse, and (ii)partial demolition to the extent reasonably necessary to carry out building operations allowed by paragraph Q.1(j)(i),	The proposal will include the provision on the upgrade of the walls and roof, installation of doors, windows and services to the extent that is reasonably necessary for the building to function as a dwelling.
k)	the site is on article 2(3) land,	The site is not within a conservation area or marked as a national park or Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
l)	the site is, or forms part of— (i)a site of special scientific interest; (ii)a safety hazard area; (iii)a military explosives storage area,	The site is not within a SSSI, within a safety hazard area or a military explosives area.
m)	the site is, or contains, a scheduled monument	There is no scheduled monument on the site.
n)	the building is a listed building,	The buildings are not listed.
o)	the existing building, excluding any proposed extension under Class Q(b) but including any proposed building operations under Class Q(c), would not be capable of complying with the nationally described space standard issued by the Department for Communities and Local Government on 27th March 2015(1) as read with the notes dated 19th May 2016 which apply to it, or	The building meets the nationally prescribed space standards.
p)	the building does not have suitable existing access to a public highway.	Suitable access can be achieved.

The above demonstrates that the proposal falls within the remit of permitted development as set out in The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015, Part 3 Class Q.

Conditions Q.2 (1)

The development is proposed under Class Q(a) and Class Q(b) and as such the Local Planning Authority must determine whether prior approval is required in respect of the following details. The requirements of Class Q.2 (1) are set out in the table below, the right hand column details how the proposal is acceptable in respect of the requirements.

Q.2	Legislation	Proposal
a)	Transport and highways impacts of the development;	Dowdsdale Bank is not a trunk road and the development will not increase the amount of traffic to the site over and above what could be generated by the existing agricultural use of the site and to the extent which would cause harm or safety issues to the public highway.
b)	Noise impacts of the development;	The proposal is for residential development and therefore would not typically result in noise disturbance.
c)	Contamination risks on the site;	There are no known contamination risks on site.
d)	Flooding risks on the site;	The site is located within Flood Zone 1 of the Environment Agency Maps.
e)	Whether the location or siting of the building makes it otherwise impractical or undesirable for the building to change from agricultural use to a use falling within Class C3 (dwellinghouses) of the Schedule to the Use Classes Order;	<p>The dwellings will be positioned to the south east side of the highway. As such they will create a cluster of residential development, thereby making the use appropriate.</p> <p>The use of this part of the holding for residential purposes will not compromise the use of the remainder of the land beyond the buildings in terms of sensitivity issues which may prejudice the use of the neighbouring land.</p>
f)	The design or appearance of the building; and	The appearance of the buildings will remain largely the same. Existing openings will be used where possible and new openings will be inserted only where necessary.
g)	The provision of natural light in all habitable rooms of the dwellinghouses.	All habitable rooms within the development will benefit from natural light.

The above demonstrates that the proposal is acceptable in relation to the conditions set out within Q.2 and it is therefore submitted that prior approval of the development is not required.