

Cottenham Village Design Group

Planning application comments

S/1179/07/PNA

Fen End Farm Oxholme Drove, Cottenham – Barn for Storage of Hay, Straw and Agricultural Machinery

This appears to be a minor development to this existing group of agricultural buildings. An additional barn in this location is acceptable and certainly preferable to a more remote location where its impact on the open fen-edge landscape would be greater.

'This is a landscape of wide views and open spaces.' (Cottenham Village Design Statement p.10)

'Small scale enterprises will be welcomed within the village.' (Design Statement p.7)

S/1187/07/F

11A Orchard Close, Cottenham – Extension

We have no comment on this application.

S/1251/07/A

Co-Op Food Store High Street, Cottenham – Sign

Our comment on the earlier application (S/0715/07/A) for signage on this building stated that we felt the colours proposed were rather bright for this Conservation Area location. Consent for this large sign was subsequently refused on the basis that its bold green background and internally illuminated lettering were considered contrary to policy EN39 (Advertisements in Conservation Areas) of the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan 2004.

We are therefore surprised to find that this new application makes no adjustment to the sign's size or to its colour and changes the means of illumination in a way which, in our opinion, will further highlight the brightness and extent of the chosen background colour.

We object to this proposal.

'Shops and business premises have a major visual impact. Use non-reflective signs in quieter colours fixed flush to buildings. Restrict the brightness of external and internal lighting.' (Cottenham Village Design Statement p.7)

S/1255/07/O

Land adj. 37A Victory Way, Cottenham – Bungalow

Whilst the Design Group would normally support development on appropriate infill plots, it is not clear that this site is suitable for such development.

'Encouragement will be given to well-designed buildings on appropriate infill plots.'
(Cottenham Village Design Statement p.22)

S/1272/07/F

Journey End Stables Church Lane, Cottenham – Erection of Field Shelter and Storage

The Design Group generally discourages new building on open land outside the village framework. However, in this case, we consider this carriage store/barn to be an acceptable extension to the existing stables facility.

'This is a landscape of wide views and open spaces.' (Cottenham Village Design Statement p.10)

S/1287/07/CM

M2 Brookfield Business Centre Twenty Pence Road, Cottenham – Weighbridge and Portacabin (Retrospective)

This is a minor development within a significant existing industrial site whose development we have previously supported. The development seems to be necessary to maintain the efficient running of this business.

'It is important to retain and develop Cottenham's character as a working village offering a variety of employment.' (Cottenham Village Design Statement p.7)

Applications viewed by Steven Poole and Alexander Thoukydides, 16th and 17th July 2007.