

Cottenham Village Design Group

Planning application comments

S/0725/09/LB

307 High Street, Cottenham – Alter and Refurbish Barn - Install New Floor, Partly Rebuild Plinth, Replace Double Doors and Areas of External Boarding and Guttering. (Part Regularisation of Unauthorised Works).

We support the restoration and refurbishment of this traditional Cottenham barn. The proposal involves minimal changes to the building and appears to specify appropriate matching materials. The addition of a free-standing raised timber floor is a sensible development which will allow the building to be used for a much wider range of activities.

'B/5: Reuse barns and outbuildings through conversions where appropriate. Minimise changes to the existing building such that its existing character is maintained.' (Cottenham Village Design Statement p.19)

'L/6: Developments such as barn conversions, re-roofing projects, work in the vicinity of ponds or the Moat etc should fully take into account responsibilities with respect to protected species including bats and great crested newts.' (Design Statement p.6)

S/0650/09/F

78 High Street, Cottenham – Entrance gates and posts

The addition of black-painted open-rail metal gates in this location is appropriate; wrought iron gates were typically used in front of houses in Cottenham.

'Large gates to the side of houses were typically of wood while cast iron or wrought iron were used in front of houses for gates and railings.' (Cottenham Village Design Statement p.21)

'F/1: Gates and metal railings should generally be painted black.' (Design Statement p.21)

S/0611/09/LB

Land to the North of 220 High Street, Cottenham – Demolish unauthorised wall and replace with traditional gault brick wall. (Regularisation of unauthorised work).

We agree that the unauthorised wall is an inappropriate development given its location abutting one of Cottenham's best-known listed buildings. We support its replacement with a traditionally constructed wall using gault brick laid in a Flemish bond and with half-round capping bricks.

'B/2: Buildings should be maintained using original or sympathetic materials and details. Pointing should not over-pack the mortar and should be carefully applied. The colour of the mortar should be carefully chosen to blend well with the brickwork. Buff brickwork works best when the mortar is close in tone, but just a little lighter than the brick itself.' (Cottenham Village Design Statement p.18)

Applications viewed and comments prepared on behalf of Cottenham Village Design Group by Steven Poole and Jennie Blood-Smyth, 21st June 2009. All quoted text is taken from the Cottenham Village Design Statement, Supplementary Planning Document: <http://www.cvdg.org/design-statement-2007.pdf>. Comments are based solely on the principles and guidelines set out in this document.