



Costs Decision

Site visit made on 1 August 2024

by David Cross BA(Hons) PgDip(Dist) TechIOA MRTPI

an Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State

Decision date: 27 August 2024

**Costs application in relation to Appeal Ref: APP/D2510/W/24/3336230
Land adjacent Raithby Water Treatment Works, Horncastle Road, Louth,
Lincolnshire LN11 9QT**

- The application is made under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, sections 78, 322 and Schedule 6, and the Local Government Act 1972, section 250(5).
 - The application is made by Mr Joe Ramsden for a full award of costs against East Lindsey District Council.
 - The appeal was against the refusal of planning permission for change of use, conversion of and alterations to existing stables into 1 no. dwelling.
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Decision

1. The application for an award of costs is refused.

Reasons

2. Parties in planning appeals normally meet their own expenses. However, the Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) advises that costs may be awarded against a party who has behaved unreasonably and thereby caused the party applying for costs to incur unnecessary or wasted expense in the appeal process.
3. The Council's reason for refusal refers to Policy SP3 of the Core Strategy¹, which the appellant contends is not applicable to the proposed development. On that basis, the appellant considers that the Council has prevented and delayed development which should clearly be permitted having regard to its accordance with the development plan, national policy and any other material considerations.
4. However, in my Appeal Decision I have concluded that the proposal should be assessed against Policy SP3, and that there are no other considerations that outweigh the conflict with that policy. On that basis, I cannot conclude that the Council has behaved unreasonably in referring to this policy. An award of costs is therefore not justified.

David Cross

INSPECTOR

¹ East Lindsey Local Plan: Core Strategy 2018