

31 August 2011

Mr Philip Ridley
Head of Planning Services
Suffolk Coastal District Council
Melton Hill
Woodbridge
Suffolk
IP12 1AU

For the Attention of Rosie Dinnen, Senior Planner

Dear Mr Ridley

C/11/1787: Rosemary Cottage, Walberswick - Demolition of a single storey rear extension, the removal of a front dormer window, the erection of a two side extensions, the erection of two front dormer windows and the insertion of two rear roof lights.

1. I am writing on behalf of the Suffolk Preservation Society ('the Society') regarding the above planning application. Whilst the cottage is neither a listed building nor within the conservation area, the Suffolk Coasts and Heaths AONB designation does impose a similar statutory duty (s.85(1) CROW Act). In the opinion of the Society the existing cottage makes a positive contribution to the streetscene by virtue of its strong symmetry and pleasing proportions. The Arts and Crafts influenced design forms part of a family of related buildings in the village of Walberswick.

2. I can confirm that the Society has no objection in principle to extending the cottage. However, we believe that the proposed design is inappropriate and would serve to unbalance the design of the original cottage thereby eroding the underlying design ethos. Instead, it is suggested that a two storey, hipped rear extension would achieve improved accommodation whilst preserving the character and appearance of the cottage. In our opinion, the current proposals are contrary to policies AP19, AP21 of the Adopted Suffolk Coastal Local Plan and allied Development Management Policy DM21 of the LDF Core Strategy.

5. The Society recommends that a revised scheme is sought in the light of the above observations to achieve the applicant's aspirations for improved accommodation; without compromising the design qualities of the existing building. We trust that you find these observations constructive and of assistance to the Council's consideration of the proposals.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Simon Cairns', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Simon Cairns
MRTPI IHBC
Director

CC: Walberswick Parish Council, SC SPS Hon Secretary Jo Rogers