

Planning Committee

07 March 2025

Agenda item number 9

Broads Authority Design Guide and Code – Endorsement

Report by Heritage and Design Manager

Summary

The Broads Authority has produced a Design Guide and Code Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). It contains guidance and sets out design requirements for development in the Broads Authority Executive Area.

Recommendation

To endorse the Broads Authority Design Guide and Code and recommend its adoption by the Broads Authority as a Supplementary Planning Document.

1. Introduction

- 1.1. The National Planning Policy Framework (2024) (NPPF) includes a requirement for all Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) to prepare design guides or codes consistent with the principles set out in the National Design Guide (2021) and National Model Design Code (2021). The Government's commitment to the production of design codes by LPAs has been strengthened in the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act (2023), which requires all LPAs to have a design code in place covering their entire areas.
- 1.2. The purpose of a Design Code is to provide clarity of design expectations at an early stage in the development process and to ensure that good design is considered at all spatial scales, down to development sites and individual plots. The Design Code should reflect local character and the NPPF specifically states that codes should be grounded in an understanding and evaluation of each area's defining characteristics. Codes should reflect local design preferences and should involve effective community engagement, taking into account national design guidance. The level of detail and degree of prescription should be tailored to the circumstances and scale of change in each place.
- 1.3. It is intended that the document should be used by anybody proposing new development, to give them an understanding of the key characteristics of built form in the area and guidance on what form new development should take and what is likely to be acceptable. The focus is on urban design principles, as well as more detailed design (e.g. the elevational treatment of buildings).

- 1.4. On adoption the Design Guide and Code SPD will be a material consideration in the determination of applications for planning permission and listed building consent. An SPD cannot create new or amend existing planning policies nor can it prescribe that particular areas of land are developed for particular uses; this is the role of Local Plans and Neighbourhood Plans.

2. Consultation

- 2.1. The Town and Country Planning (Local Plans) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended) require the Authority to undertake consultation to inform the production of the Design Guide and Code SPD and also, as a minimum, requires that the draft document is published for four weeks and during that time it is available on the Authority's website with hard copies available for inspection in the Authority's office.
- 2.2. The Authority's approach to engagement in the preparation of SPDs is set out in the Statement of Community Involvement. The consultations were advertised on the Authority's website and through social media posts. Consultation documents were available on the Authority's website, in libraries, district council offices and at the Authority's office.
- 2.3 For the Design Guide and Code we undertook three rounds of consultation, the first being specifically to establish a baseline of information on the thoughts of the local community in relation to the built environment. This took place over a three-week period between the 14 of April and 6 May 2022. The consultation consisted of a survey which was sent to the Broads Society and parish and town councils for circulation, advertised via social and other media and was on the Authority's website. The consultation attracted 148 responses and demonstrated the great weight placed on the built environment of the Broads by respondents, who also placed great value on the natural environment and Broads' heritage. This shaped the production of the Design Guide and Code.
- 2.4 The second consultation on the first draft of the Design Guide and Code took place over an eight week period between 3 October and 9 December 2022. Three community 'drop-in' sessions were also held and visits made to groups such as the Nancy Oldfield Trust, Youth Advisory Boards in Broadland and Great Yarmouth and to EmpowerHER in Norwich. The consultation attracted more than 20 responses from individuals, groups and organisations.
- 2.5 The final period of consultation took place between the 5 of December 2024 and 16 of January 2025. 18 responses were received.
- 2.6 Where appropriate, the document has been amended to incorporate suggestions made by consultees.

3. Conclusion

- 3.1. The Planning Committee to endorse the document and recommend to the Broads Authority that the Broads Authority Design Guide and Code is adopted as a Supplementary Planning Document.

Author: Kate Knights

Date of report: 07 February 2025

[Broads Plan](#) strategic objectives: F4 Provide up-to-date planning policy, site specific allocations and planning guidance

Appendix 1 – [Broads Authority Design Guide and Code Supplementary Planning Document](#)

The following appendices are available to view on [Planning Committee - 7 March 2025 \(broads-authority.gov.uk\)](#)

Appendix 2 – [Consultation Statement](#)

Appendix 3 – [Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening](#)

Design Guide and Code for the Broads Supplementary Planning Document

Adopted March 2025



Produced by the Broads Authority and Turley

All photos: the Broads Authority

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1. Introduction to the Design Guide and Code for the Broads Supplementary Planning Document

- 1.1 The purpose of this Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) is to:
- a) meet the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and Levelling Up and Regeneration Act, 2023 by providing a Design Guide and Code for the Broads Authority's Executive Area.
 - b) ensure that an understanding of the wider context informs design proposals.
 - c) set out design requirements for developers and others to ensure that design expectations are clear at an early stage in the process.
- 1.2 The Broads is a special place with a strong relationship between the land, water and people. The villages and buildings within the landscape are crucial to the distinctiveness of the Broads. The NPPF 2024 sets out at paragraph 189 and 190 that *'great weight should be given to conserving and enhancing landscape and scenic beauty'* in the Broads, which has the highest level of protection in relation to these issues. It goes on to state that, *'development within their setting should be sensitively located and designed to avoid or minimise adverse impact on the designated areas'*. Key to ensuring that the special qualities of the Broads are protected is an understanding of what makes the Broads special. It is intended that the Broads Authority's Design Guide and Code ensure that new development meets these requirements.
- 1.3 The Broads Authority is the Local Planning Authority for the Broads area and this SPD applies only to land within the Authority's executive boundary.
- 1.4 The NPPF 2024 glossary defines supplementary planning documents as *'documents which add further detail to the policies in the development plan. They can be used to provide further guidance for development on specific sites, or on particular issues, such as design. Supplementary planning documents are capable of being a material consideration in planning decisions but are not part of the development plan.'*
- 1.5 The Authority intends that this SPD will help applicants consider the issue of design in an appropriate way. The SPD should be read alongside policy DM43 of the Local Plan for the Broads (adopted 2019) and any superseding Local Plan policies. The SPD is a material consideration in determining planning applications.
- 1.6 The Authority is aware that the Government is seeking the phasing out of the use of SPDs. However, the transition arrangements to phasing out SPDs and the progress of the emerging Local Plan for the Broads are such that the Authority considers it appropriate and relevant to produce this SPD.

- 1.7 Consultation took place between the beginning of December and the middle of January for a six week period (to take account of Christmas).
- 1.8 Comments received have been assessed and responded to. The [consultation statement](#) and [draft adoption statement](#) have been produced.
- 1.10 The Broads Authority Design Guide SPD was endorsed at to Planning Committee on 7 March 2025 and approved for adoption at the 14 March 2025 Broads Authority meeting.

Consultation and Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening

- 1.11 We asked the public and stakeholders for their initial input into the Design Guide and Code via a survey in 2022. We consulted on the first draft Design Guide and Code during the winter of 2022-2023 and the final draft between December 2024 and January 2025. All comments were read and some resulted in amendments to the Design Guide and Code. Details of the consultations, with comments received and the Authority's responses can be found at [XXXX](#).
- 1.12 The Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening is available at [XXXX](#). It is not considered that there is a need for a full SEA and this opinion was generally supported by Natural England.

Local Plan Policy DM43

- 1.13 The Design Guide SPD is in conformity with the Local Plan for the Broads (adopted 2019) and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2024). It expands on Local Plan policy DM43:

Policy DM43: Design

All development will be expected to be of a high design quality. Development should integrate effectively with its surroundings, reinforce local distinctiveness and landscape character and preserve or enhance cultural heritage. Innovative designs will be encouraged where appropriate.

Proposals will be assessed to ensure they effectively address the following matters:

a) Siting and layout: The siting and layout of a development must reflect the characteristics of the site in terms of its appearance and function, and be an easy to navigate environment.

b) Relationship to surroundings and to other development: Development proposals must complement the character of the local area and reinforce the distinctiveness of the wider Broads setting. In particular, development shall respond to surrounding buildings and the distinctive features or qualities that contribute to the landscape, streetscape and waterscape quality of the local area. Design shall also promote permeability and accessibility

by ensuring ease of movement between homes, jobs and services and by creating links to public transport services.

c) Mix of uses: To create vitality and interest, proposals should incorporate a mix of uses where possible and appropriate.

d) Density, scale, form and massing: The density, scale, form, massing and height of a development must be appropriate to the local context of the site and to the surrounding landscape/streetscape/waterscape character.

e) Appropriate facilities: Development shall incorporate appropriate waste management and storage facilities, provision for the storage of bicycles, and connection to communication networks.

f) Detailed design and materials: The detailing and materials of a building must be of high quality and appropriate to its context. New development should employ sustainable materials, building techniques and technology where appropriate. Proposals shall minimise construction waste.

g) Crime prevention: The design and layout of development should be safe and secure, with natural surveillance. Measures to reduce the risk of crime and antisocial behaviour should be considered at an early stage so as not to be at the expense of overall design quality.

h) Accessibility and adaptability: Developments shall be capable of adapting to changing circumstances, in terms of occupiers, use and climate change (including changes in water level). In particular, dwelling houses should be able to adapt to changing family circumstances or ageing of the occupier(s) and commercial premises should be able to respond to changes in industry or the economic base. Applicants are required to consider if it is appropriate for their proposed dwelling/ some of the dwellings to be built so they are accessible and adaptable and meet Building Regulation standard M4(2) and M4(3). If applicants do not consider it appropriate, they need to justify this. For developments of five dwellings or more, 20% will be built to meet Building Regulation Standard M4(2).

i) Flood risk and resilience: Development shall be designed to reduce flood risk but still be of a scale and design appropriate to its Broads setting. Traditional or innovative approaches may be employed to reduce the risks and effects of flooding.

j) Biodiversity: The design and layout of development shall aim to protect, provide for, restore and enhance biodiversity.

k) High quality landscaping. All proposals shall be designed to respond to and integrate effectively with the landscape character of the area, making a positive contribution through a high quality landscaping scheme as appropriate.

2. Introduction to Design Guide and Codes

Purpose

- 2.1 Good design is fundamental to the creation of places, communities and environments where people want to live, work and visit. Good design considers the context and character of the local area and then responds to those principles in proposals for development to ensure that both existing and new buildings work comfortably together. In this way, good design ensures that new development is shaped by and contributes to local distinctiveness.
- 2.2 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), December 2024 includes a requirement for all Local Planning Authorities (LPAs), including the Broads Authority, to prepare design guides or codes consistent with the principles set out in the National Design Guide, January 2021 and National Model Design Code, July 2021. This requirement was re-iterated in the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act, October 2023.
- 2.3 In addition to this document, the [National Design Guide](#) forms part of the Government's collection of planning practice guidance and should also be referred to when considering development.

How to Use this Design Guide and Code SPD

- 2.4 This document is in two parts. The first part is a design guide that provides an appraisal of the local context and character of the common building types in the Broads and is intended to promote an understanding of the area. Good design is an active, conscious process and does not happen by accident. The document identifies the most common development types in the Broads area, outlines the contexts and key characteristics of each.
- 2.5 The second part is the Design Code, which comprises of a series of detailed design codes which set out the design requirements that apply within the Broads. It should be noted that some buildings may fall into more than one building category. The design code is intended to provide a clarity of design expectations at an early stage in the development process.
- 2.6 Whilst the document focuses on the most common development types, many of the design principles it sets out are applicable to all development types and so should be considered when designing any development, however small. The principles set out in the design guide and code will be applied to all planning applications. Some development does not require planning permission as it is 'permitted development', however the design guide and code will be a useful reference point and the guidance

within them should be considered when thinking about development.

- 2.7 When considering new development, the developer should first establish the context and local character of the proposed development site by using the Appraisal of Building Types (section 3). The maps on pages 12 and 13 indicate where there are significant numbers of the building types identified as common in the Broads. Some building types may fall into more than one category, while some may not obviously fit into any of them, in which case the general design codes will apply.
- 2.8 The Appraisal of Building Types provides background information on the area in which the site sits. It should be used to inform the site-specific context analysis and site assessment, in order to demonstrate an understanding of the local architectural influences and context for the proposed development. It is useful to include this assessment within a Design and Access Statement or Planning Statement, or to provide it as supporting information with any planning application to illustrate how the proposal has been worked up.
- 2.9 Having assessed the context and characteristics of the area, the developer should use the results of this analysis to inform and direct the design of the proposed development.
- 2.10 The Design Code in part two (section 4) sets out the specific requirements which apply to each building type addressed in this document. There are a number of general codes which apply to all development in the Broads (see BA1 - BA37) and then a series of specific codes for each of the building types. Where a building type does not have specific design code requirements, it is expected the general approach be followed.
- 2.11 Where sites have been allocated for potential development, there may be a specific policy relating to the site in the Local Plan for the Broads and it may be appropriate for a separate site-specific design code and / or Supplementary Planning Document to be formulated for the site.
- 2.12 The Design Code is intended to be prescriptive, in accordance with good practice. Each code is therefore a requirement for a particular aspect or component of design and should be complied with. If it is proposed to deviate from a particular code, justification should be provided within the planning application to explain and justify why this is considered to be necessary or appropriate.
- 2.13 This document should be used in conjunction with national and local planning policy and supplementary or supporting documents and guidance. This includes Neighbourhood Plans and any accompanying Design Guides. There is a full list of adopted Neighbourhood Plans on the Broads Authority [website](#). Where a proposed development is within a conservation area, the appropriate conservation area appraisal should be referred to. These can also be found on the Broads Authority [website](#).
- 2.14 Other design assessment tools and standards could also be referred to. These

include: [Building for a Healthy Life](#); [Secured By Design](#); [Active Design \(Sports England\)](#); [Building Tomorrow's Rural Communities: A Design Guide](#) and [Broads Authority Planning Guides](#).

- 2.15 For proposed larger schemes and housing development of five units or more, the process set out in [Building for a Healthy Life](#) should be followed by developers.
- 2.16 We have produced a useful checklist that can be used by applicants to ensure that all the relevant codes have been considered. This is at the end of the document.

PART ONE: The Design Guide and Appraisal of Building Types



Above: A cluster of historic buildings by the river Bure at Coltishall.

3. Appraisal of Building Types

3.1 The Broads Authority's Executive Area covers a wide geographical span and includes a large number of different building types. The Design Guide focuses on the six most prevalent building types in the area. These are:



Waterside Chalets: sub-divided into cottage-style, shed-style, late 20th century and contemporary



Waterside Homes: sub-divided into Waterside Homes and Waterside Homes (Marina)



Boatyards



Historic Clusters



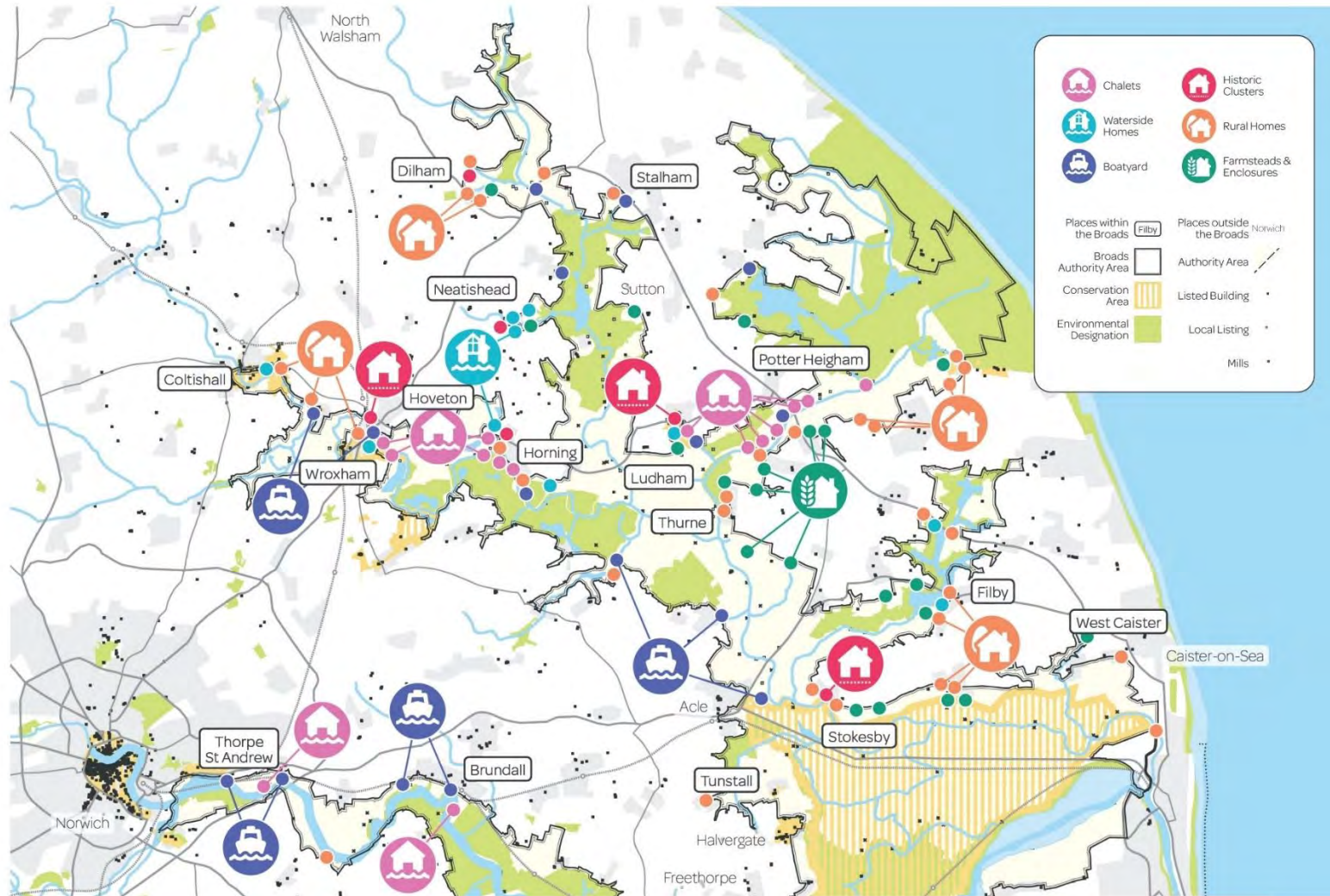
Rural Homes



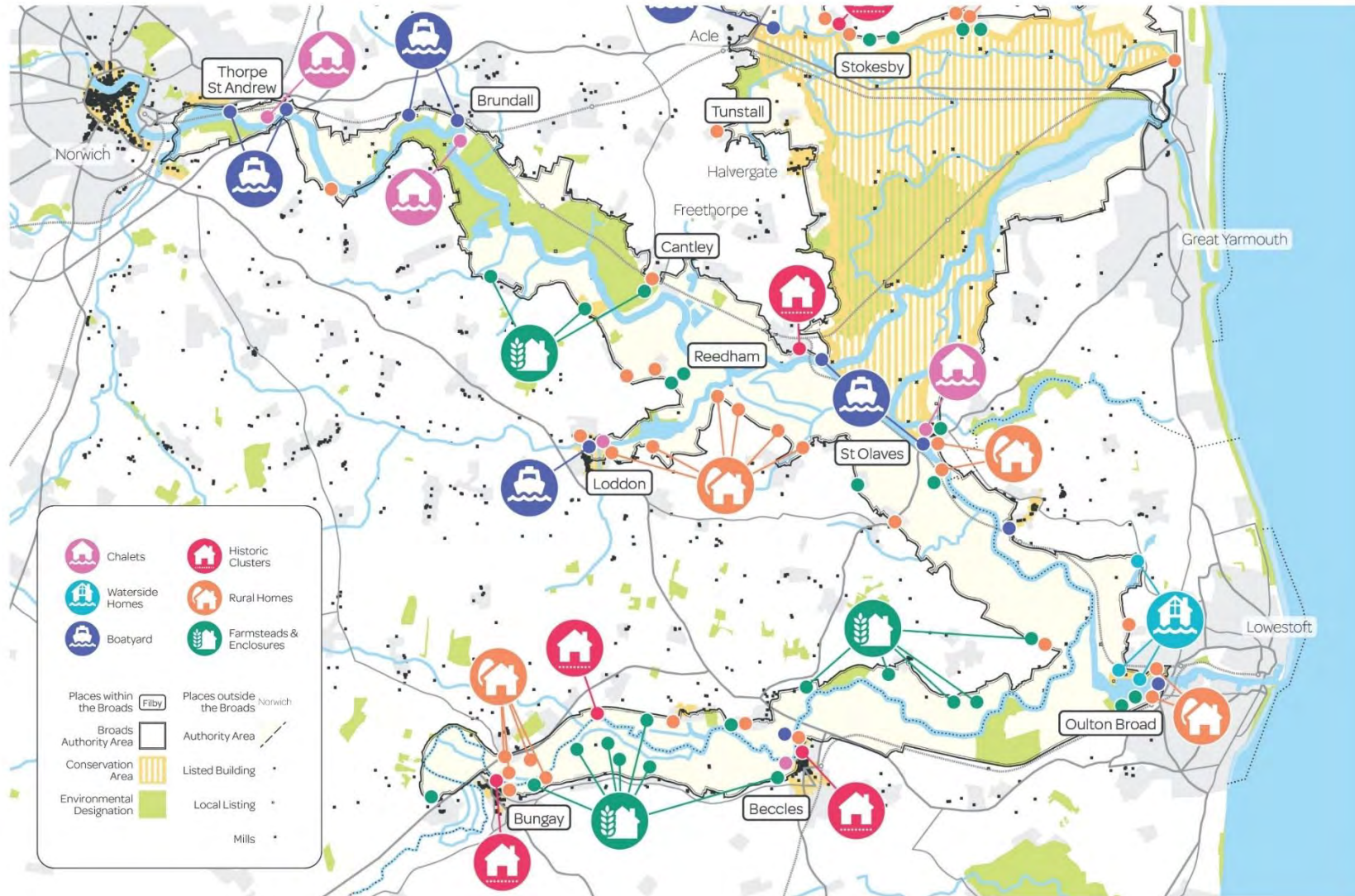
Farmstead

3.2 The maps on pages 12 and 13 show the main locations of the different building types, but they may also occur elsewhere in the Broads.

Diagrammatic map showing general location of building types in the northern Broads



Diagrammatic map showing general location of building types in the southern Broads





Waterside Chalets



Above: Leisure Hour, Hoveton on the river Bure. A traditional waterside chalet.

Key Defining Qualities

- Located adjacent to the water, often with private moorings
- Informal layout and development
- Designed to address the water frontage
- Simple built form

3.3 The simple buildings that sit beside the rivers of the Broads are one of its most attractive and distinctive characteristics and are largely unique to this area. Known locally as either 'chalets' or 'bungalows', they are very different from the modern idea of a 'chalet' or 'bungalow'. The original riverside buildings would have been workers' dwellings and were simple, lightweight structures designed to sit on the marshy, soft ground and built of local timber and reed.

3.4 During the Victorian period, supported by the development of the railways, the Broads became a popular destination for recreation. By the early 20th century, pleasure

cruising and the recreational use of the waterways was well-established and the waterside location of the chalets meant that they were attractive to an expanding holiday market.

- 3.5 Consequently, the late 19th and early 20th century saw the rapid development of chalets in and around the Broads villages in a variety of styles. Some chalets were simple in design with little ornamentation, whereas others incorporate whimsical features and decoration or are highly decorated featuring cottage-orné or Art Nouveau motifs in a bid to appeal to fashion-conscious tourists. During the 19th and early 20th century, some chalets were manufactured by companies such as Boulton and Paul of Norwich, but many others were built by local boatbuilders transferring their skills to this growing industry. The distribution of the chalets today is still largely as it was in the early 20th century, with no significant expansion of the areas, and while many of the originals have been rebuilt or replaced, the popularity of the chalets has continued into the 21st century.
- 3.6 The chalets are generally found on the fringes of settlements, sometimes close to boatyards. Their design often reflects the period in which they were built and they typically fall within one of the following categories:
- Cottage-type, taking design cues from the residential properties of the period;
 - Shed-type, originally resembling a boatshed with a simple form and little ornamentation;
 - Late 20th century, usually a renovation or replacement using modern materials;
 - Contemporary chalets, often picking up the traditional elements and combining them with an appropriate modern style.
- 3.7 The following text outlines the features that apply to all of the chalets type, with further details of the four different types provided at the end of this section.
- 3.8 Chalets are typically of a lightweight, timber construction, suitable for the marshy ground on which they sit. They are often slightly raised above ground level and accessed via steps. They are normally one or one and a half storeys in height with a pitched roof and have direct access to the water. They are normally arranged in a linear group following the line of the water's edge and many are within the flood plain and therefore at risk of flooding, particularly in winter. Chalets are often used as holiday accommodation, but some are also used as permanent dwellings. Many have separate boatsheds that are often smaller and have a similar appearance to the chalet.
- 3.9 Both the size and form of any chalet building will vary depending on its location within the Broads and the local character. Typically, the chalets at Potter Heigham sit on small plots, so are modest in size and form, while in Horning and Wroxham the plots are often larger and so may accommodate a more spacious chalet. Historically Brundall has been an area of boatyards and boat building, and here cabin-like buildings are more likely to

be found.

- 3.10 The traditional character and materials have survived on many chalets throughout the Broads, but these buildings are increasingly vulnerable to change. The change resulting from demolition and replacement is obvious, however incremental small-scale changes over time can also have a dramatic effect. 'Modernisation' often means the replacement of timber windows with UPVC, shingles or timber cladding with composite panels and upright wooden balustrading around a verandah with glass or Perspex panels. These changes are often done to reduce the maintenance required, but this 'upgrading' is not always visually successful and can cumulatively erode the traditional character of chalets as well as the wider landscape.
- 3.11 It is recognised that the traditional chalets may not meet modern expectations of comfort and energy performance, however these can often be 'improved' in a sensitive way which does not compromise their character.
- 3.12 There are examples of well-designed replacement chalets that reflect aspects of the traditional buildings in a contemporary manner. These buildings tend to be slightly larger and less lightweight than their predecessors, often in order to meet current Building Regulations. However, the successful examples still reinforce the local distinctiveness of the Broads through their design and choice of materials.
- 3.13 Consideration also needs to be given to external areas and suburbanisation of these areas is not appropriate, for example through the introduction of large areas of hardstanding.
- 3.14 As well as access from the waterway, vehicular access to a chalet is often by private shared tracks. These shared tracks are generally not publicly maintained and are often relatively narrow, with an unmade or gravelled surface. This has the potential to cause problems for pedestrians and cyclists, although some do have an asphalt road surface especially if they are in a settlement. Some chalets are not accessible by car and only have footpath access.
- 3.15 Some chalet plots do not have space for car parking, so this is achieved off site. Where parking is provided this is usually on the non-waterside elevation and the absence of riverside views of parked cars contributes significantly to the tranquil character of the chalet plots.

Key Features of Chalet Development



Above: The aerial view above demonstrates some of the characteristics of typical chalet development - see numbers below (credit: Bluesky International Ltd & Getmapping PLC)

1. Located by the water
2. Modest and symmetrical massing
3. Regular rectangular building footprint, set either parallel or perpendicular to the river
4. Good relationship with the river, often with moorings
5. Building set close to road/track with small waterfront garden, with soft landscaping and absence of hard surfacing/ decking and patios
6. Detached yet within close proximity to each other, although gaps between the buildings provide views to the river
7. Few and only small-scale ancillary buildings, primarily positioned on the street-side elevation



Above: Figure ground showing the positioning and spacing of the chalet buildings and their relationship to the spaces and water around them. © Crown Copyright

Example Locations:

- Brundall
- Horning (partly in [Horning Conservation Area](#))
- Hoveton and Wroxham (partly in [Wroxham Conservation Area](#))
- Potter Heigham and Martham

Prevailing Characteristics:

- a) Period: Late 19th to Present
- b) Plot Sizes: min 15 x 12m - max 60 x 35m
- c) Height: 1-1.5 storeys
- d) Building Type: Detached
- e) Parking: 0-2 spaces
- f) Floor Area Ratio: 0.3-0.8
- g) Building Coverage ratio: 0.3-0.5
- h) Roadside Garden: 1m-10m
- i) Waterside Garden: about 8m
- j) Mooring type: Private
- k) Building Line: Staggered but linear
- l) Roof form: pitched, often steep with equal or greater roof:wall ratio and with overhanging eaves
- m) Other Details: Often with boathouses

3.16 Further [guidance on waterside chalets](#) can be found on the Broads Authority website.



Above: Footpath access to the rear of the chalets (known as The Bungalows) at Potter Heigham. There is no vehicular access to many of the chalets. The path runs along the back and The Bungalows face the river.



Above: Typical access to chalets in Hoveton. These chalets have a frontage to both the track and the river, with the buildings primarily addressing the river.

Cottage-style Chalets

Key Defining Qualities

- Influenced by the 'cottage orné' movement of the 19th century with a 'chocolate-box' cottage appearance
- Tend to use traditional materials such as reed thatch and render with timber details, often with rustic-style unhewn timbers.

Roof, Form and Heights

3.17 Buildings are generally of a simple form set over a single floor although they sometimes feature small 'eyebrow' dormer windows where there is a room within the roof space. Roofs are dominant and often hipped but at times feature gable ends. Generally, the building is of balanced proportions but with a greater emphasis on the waterside elevation.

Elevations and Detailing

3.18 Often rendered, sometimes with pargetting and at times with applied 'mock' timber-framing or a combination of these. Alternatively, the buildings may have timber or timber-shingle cladding. Timber detailing and decoration often includes bargeboards and extends to a porch or veranda including timber posts and brackets, sometimes rustic-style unhewn timber is used. Timber windows are often numerous and are small cottage-style casements, sometimes with Arts and Crafts-style detailing or stained glass. Windows and other joinery are often painted in a contrasting colour to the walls.

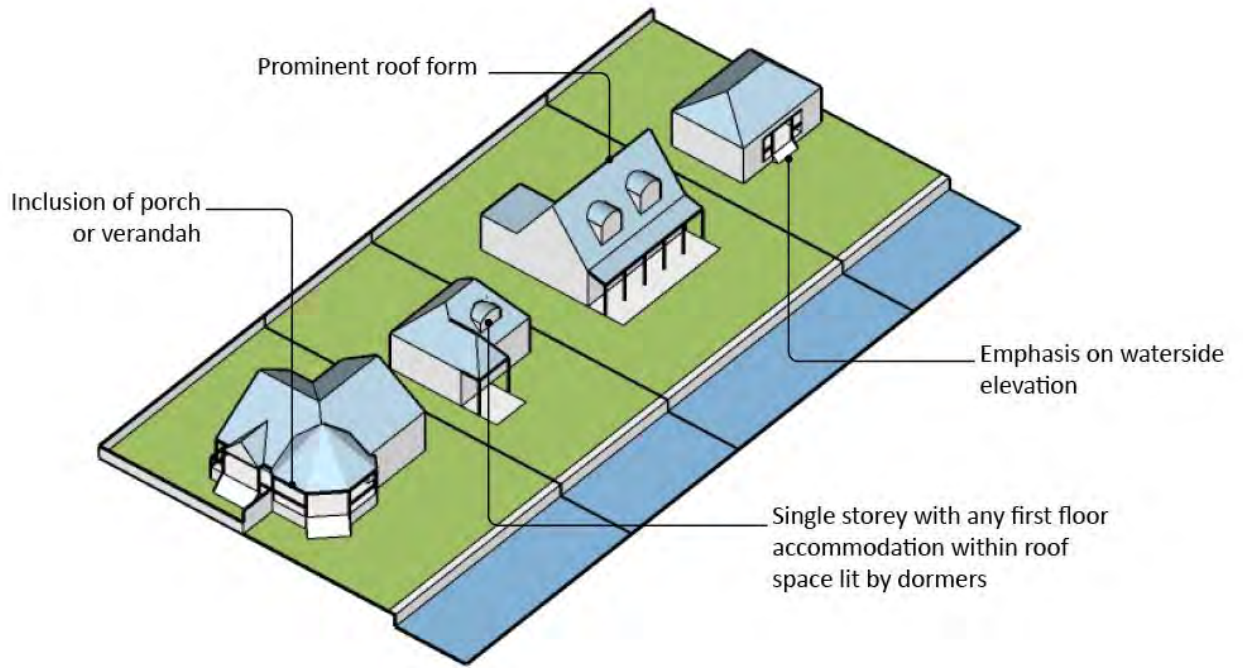
3.19 Roofs are often thatched with water reed or covered in timber shingles. In some locations profiled steel has been used.

Access and Water

3.20 Positioned close to the water with a private mooring cut for boats and at times without easy land access. On occasions, the chalets are raised above a boat shed with simple timber gates.

Spaces

3.21 Often comprising a lawned garden facing the water with simple boundary treatments to the sides of the plots, either comprising planting or low timber fencing. Sites are likely to have an open aspect to the river-frontage. There may be small ancillary outbuildings such as sheds, summer-houses or boat-sheds on the plot. Parking is rarely provided on the plot.



Above: Staithecote on the River Bure at Hoveton demonstrates a number of typical characteristics of the cottage-style chalet, with a thatched roof, deeply over-hanging eaves, timber windows and in this case pargetting.



Above: A more recent chalet on the River Bure at Hoveton, also displaying characteristics such as a thatched roof, eyebrow dormer, verandah and simple timber casement windows painted in a contrasting colour to the walls.

Prevailing Materials:



Timber shingles



Reed thatch



Timber-framing and render

Shed-type Chalets

Key Defining Qualities

- Compact, plain and simple construction akin to domestic ancillary or outbuildings
- Use of simple materials such as corrugated metal and timber cladding.

Roof, Form and Heights

- 3.22 Buildings have a simple form and are single storey in height. Roofs are mostly relatively shallow pitched (around 45-55 degrees) with gable-ends, although occasionally hipped, with the ridge-line generally running parallel to the river.
- 3.23 Most frequently the building footprint is rectangular with the widest elevation orientated towards the water.

Elevations and Detailing

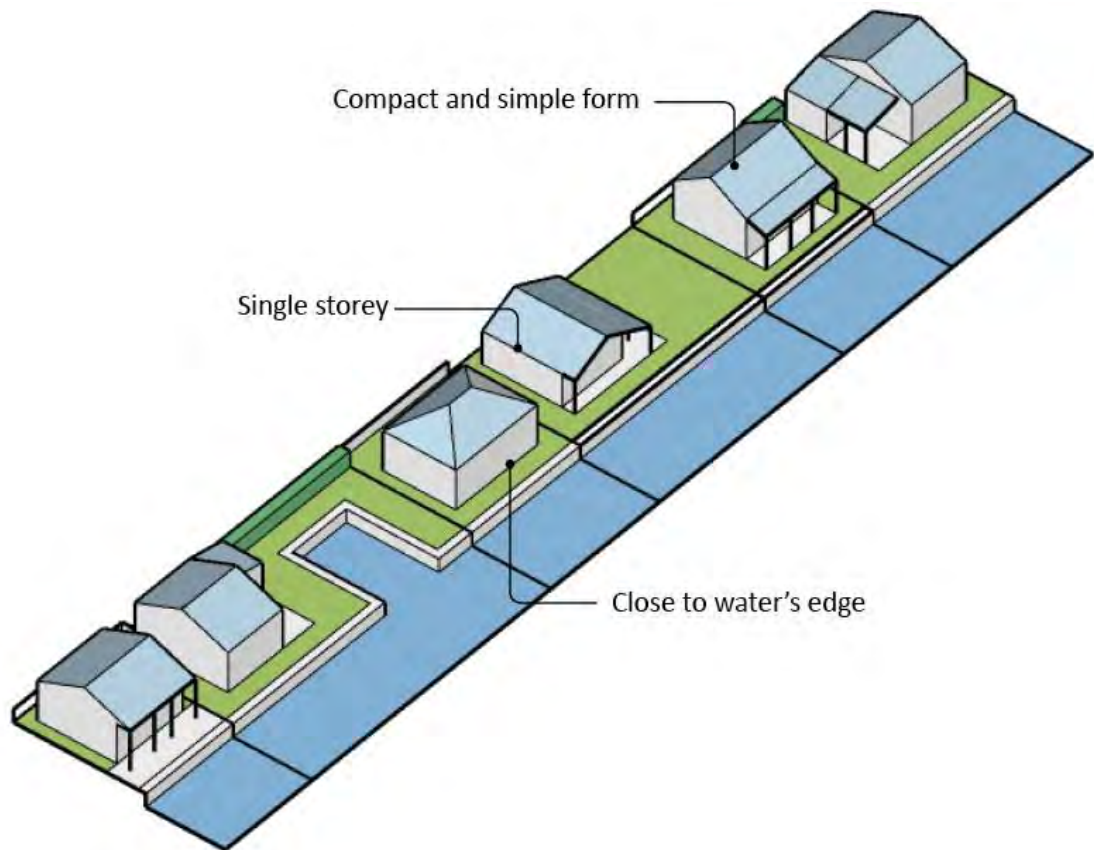
- 3.24 Often elevations have stained or painted timber cladding or shingles, with felt tiles or corrugated metal roofs, some of which have more recently been changed to tile which can erode the character. Windows are often concentrated on the water- frontage but may be limited in number and size.
- 3.25 Windows are traditionally timber or Crittall-style. Buildings often have a terrace, or the roof overhangs a veranda along the river-elevation.
- 3.26 Shed-type chalets are generally of timber construction and cladding along with other timberwork such as bargeboards and finials. Some have art nouveau or other detailing, while others are basic in style with little ornamentation.
- 3.27 Overall the form of the building is simple.

Access and Water

- 3.28 Positioned close to the water with a private mooring cut for a boat and at times without easy land access.

Spaces

- 3.29 Normally comprising a simple lawned garden, at times to the side of the chalet where the building is particularly close to the water's edge. Boundaries are often hedges or low timber fences. Sheds, summer-houses or boat sheds can be found on the site. Sites have an open aspect to the river- frontage. Parking is rarely provided on the plot.



Above: Typical shed-like chalet on the river Bure at Horning. The building has a simple form and fenestration which is painted to contrast with the timber-clad walls, with a profiled metal roof and verandah.



Above: A more contemporary remodelling of a shed-type chalet at Potter Heigham along the river Thurne, where there are predominantly shed-type chalets. This chalet retains the traditional simple form, with timber ship-lap cladding and a verandah.



Above: A simple shed-type chalet positioned parallel to the river Thurne at Potter Heigham. The metal roof overhangs a verandah and the building has simple fenestration in a contrasting colour to the timber cladding. There is a decorative timber balustrade and finials on the roof.

Prevailing Materials:



Timber cladding



Profiled metal sheeting



Open verandah

Late 20th Century Chalets

Key Defining Qualities

- More suburban and domestic in character, with use of modern materials and construction techniques. The buildings do not have the lightweight appearance of more traditional chalets.
- Larger buildings with accommodation in the roof space and dormer windows.
- Are typical of the time in which they were built (1970s-1980s) but do not reflect the Broads' vernacular and as such would not be considered appropriate as a style for new development.

Roof, Form and Heights

- 3.30 Buildings are generally of a scale similar to suburban homes of the same period, with first-floor accommodation arranged within a steeply pitched roof. Roofs are tiled and often contain dormer windows. The building footprint is usually rectangular with either a wide or narrow frontage facing the water.

Elevations and Detailing

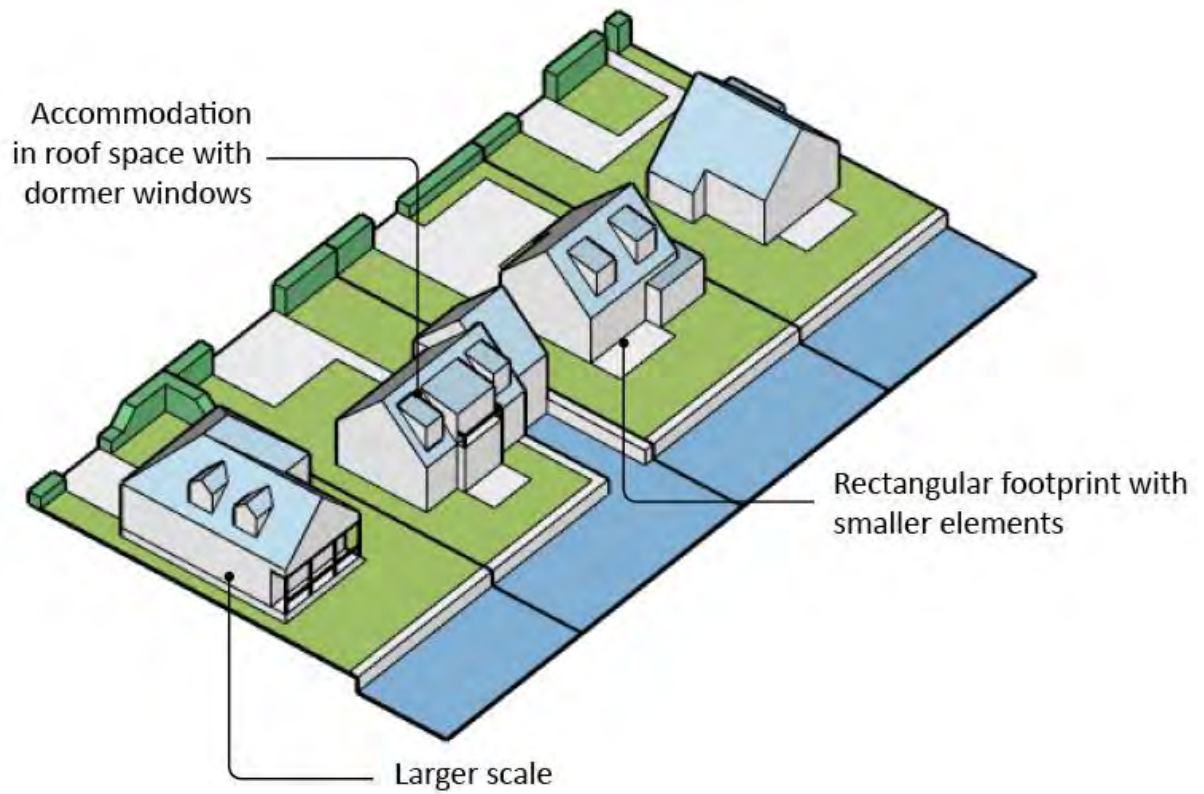
- 3.31 A mix of treatments can be found with render or timber cladding common. Windows tend to be large with emphasis around decking and projecting first-floor balconies. At times the appearance of elevations is quite plain.

Access and Water

- 3.32 Accessed from private roadway or track. Often positioned close to the water with a private mooring cut for boats

Spaces

- 3.33 Gardens often feature lawns, patios and decking. Boat sheds are sometimes present on site. Sites have an open aspect to the river- frontage. Parking may be provided on the non-waterside elevation.



Above: A late 20th century chalet building of 1.5 storeys, with a steeply pitched roof containing accommodation, lit by dormers. The roof has concrete pantiles and the walls have a light-coloured render.



Above: Late 20th century building at Hoveton in a similar style to the example above with a projecting first floor balcony. These properties are more suburban in style than traditional chalets

Prevailing Materials:



Clay tiles or concrete pantiles



Pale-coloured render



Dormers

Contemporary

Key Defining Qualities

- Tend to be a recent rebuild
- Often include extensive use of glazing (which may not always be acceptable now), and recessed balconies facing the water.

Roof, Form and Heights

- 3.34 Buildings are generally arranged over 1.5 storeys, with first floor accommodation enclosed within a steeply pitched roof. This may contain a first-floor recessed balcony, which the roof overhangs.
- 3.35 Better examples reflect the local vernacular in a contemporary manner (for example, reflecting the scale or form of more traditional buildings or through the use of detailing and materials) or exemplify sustainable architecture.
- 3.36 The building footprint is generally rectangular with either a wide or narrow frontage facing the water.

Elevations and Detailing

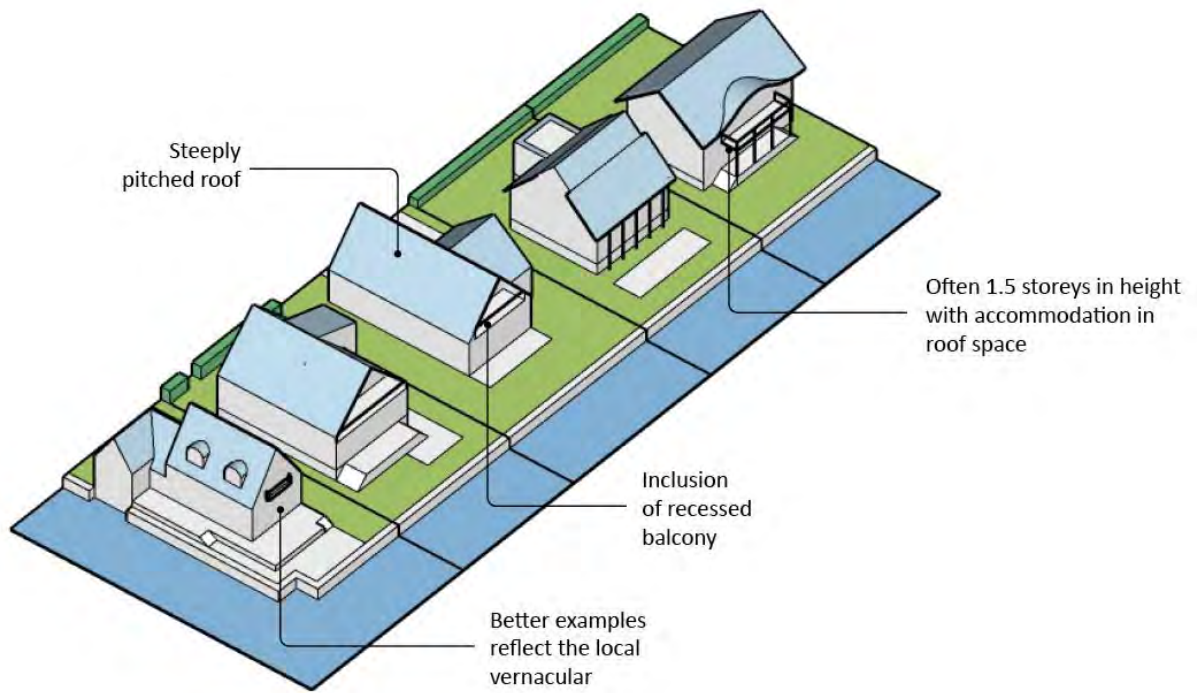
- 3.37 Generally, elevations are treated with glazing, timber cladding or render. Often there is a use of glass or composite materials that can be in contrast, and at times harmful, to the character of the surrounding area.

Access and Water

- 3.38 Often positioned close to the water with a private mooring cut for boats. They are sometimes close to maintained roads and can have easier access overland than other chalets.

Spaces

- 3.39 Boundaries are low timber fence panels or planting. There are sometimes boat sheds on site and there is usually an open aspect to the river-frontage, with parking provided on the non-waterside elevation. Lawns and soft landscaping are increasingly being replaced with decking and patio structures, but this is not considered beneficial and can erode the character of the area.



Above: A sustainably-built contemporary chalet on the River Bure at Wroxham.



Above: Bide-a-Wee, Hoveton. A contemporary replacement chalet that makeuse of traditional materials (timber cladding, shingle roofing) and references traditional details such as the deeply overhanging eaves and an over-sized eyebrow-dormer.



Above: Contemporary chalet buildings on the river Bure at Hoveton.

Prevailing Materials:



Timber cladding



Recessed balcony



Render



Waterside Homes



Above: Waterside homes at Beccles viewed from the opposite riverbank.

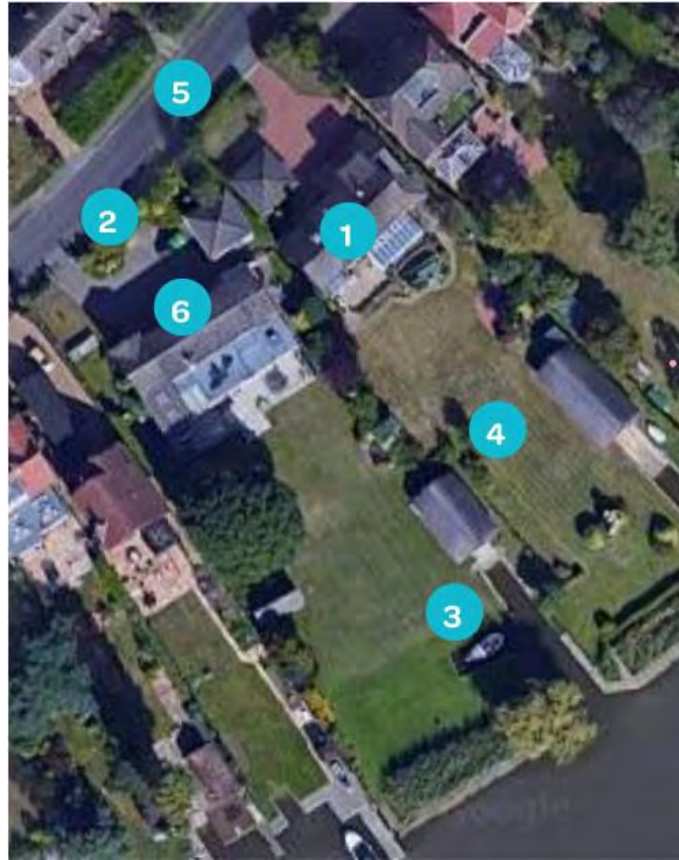
- 3.40 There are two main types of Waterside Homes and these are described in the sections below. The first type ‘Waterside Homes’, are generally larger detached or semi-detached properties set on a more substantial plot adjacent to the water. The second are smaller properties, often dating from the late 20th century, arranged in a terrace and frequently found in proximity to marinas. We will refer to these as ‘Waterside Homes (Marina)’.

Waterside Homes

Key Defining Qualities

- Large detached and semi-detached homes and gardens
 - Conventional street access and frontage
 - Incidental extensions and outbuildings
 - Formal layout
- 3.41 From the late 19th century, the increased accessibility and popularity of the Broads led to a demand from wealthy industrialists and merchants for attractive, waterside dwellings from which to enjoy country pursuits such as shooting and fishing, as well as to demonstrate status.
- 3.42 Traditional Waterside Homes are formally laid out, often of substantial scale, and generally reflect prevailing national architectural and construction trends of the time. They are usually, but not always, a primary domestic residence and not dissimilar to buildings such as those found in Historic Clusters building type but are configured to make the most of their waterside setting, some with boathouses and other ancillary outbuildings.
- 3.43 Homes are generally of a larger scale within a sizable plot, positioned above river-level, with a large lawned garden running down to the water. Victorian and Edwardian homes are usually arranged over two or three floors with varied roof forms and ridge-lines punctuated by chimneys, whereas contemporary examples tend to be simpler in form.
- 3.44 Materials can vary but are more substantial than those found on chalets and are primarily traditional, for example, red brick, flint, and clay tile or slate roofs.
- 3.45 Properties tend to be served by conventional residential streets, with a carriageway and footway. Private drives provide off-street parking. Often the view of the water from roads is blocked by the scale of the homes, set back and landscaping. Access to the waterside is private and often dominated by large gardens, dense boundary planting and sometimes boathouses or garden rooms overlooking the water.

Key Features of Waterside Homes



Above: The aerial view above demonstrates some of the characteristics of typical waterside home development - see numbers below (Bluesky International Ltd & Getmapping PLC)

1. Large plot with detached or semi-detached house
2. Front drive and garage
3. Boathouse or outbuildings
4. Large garden on the waterside, often lawned with planted borders
5. House set back from residential street behind a front garden
6. Buildings often positioned parallel to the street with substantial elevations designed to address the street as well as the waterside



Above: Figure ground showing the relationship of typical waterside homes to the spaces and buildings around them © Crown Copyright

Example Locations

- Broad View Road, Oulton Broad (in [Oulton Broad Conservation Area](#))
- Anchor Street, Coltishall (in [Coltishall and Horstead Conservation Area](#))
- Beech Road, Wroxham (in [Wroxham Conservation Area](#))
- The Street, Belaugh (in [Belaugh Conservation Area](#))
- Puddingmoor and Northgate, Beccles (in [Beccles Conservation Area](#))

Prevailing Characteristics

- a) Period: 1850 – present
- b) Height: 2-3 floors
- c) Building Type: Detached or semi-detached
- d) Front Garden: Between 6-12m
- e) Waterside Garden: over 15m
- f) Floor Area Ratio: 0.2-0.7
- g) Roof form: Mixed (Gable/Hipped)
- h) Plot sizes: min 15 x 35m max 30 x 80m
- i) Building coverage ratio: 0.2-0.4

Prevailing Materials:



Red brick, with decorative brickwork



Slate roofs



Timber-clad boatsheds

Roof, Form and Heights

- 3.36 Waterside Homes are relatively large (larger than chalets), often 2-3 storeys in height and have elevations broken up into individual elements which reduces their massing.
- 3.37 They often have interesting roof forms and varied roof lines, including chimney stacks and dormers.

Elevations and Detailing

- 3.38 Elevations tend to express a strong architectural order and often incorporate variation between the ground and upper floors or protruding and recessed elements to the building's facade. As well as a prominent street frontage, emphasis is placed on the river-facing elevation where large windows, sunrooms and balconies can be found. Sometimes there is rich detailing.

Access and Water

- 3.39 Normally positioned on a substantial plot with a river frontage and private mooring, sometimes with a private boatshed.
- 3.40 Also good vehicular and pedestrian access directly from the street.

Spaces

- 3.41 Large enough streetside garden to allow on site car parking and possibly incorporate a garage or car port. Large waterside garden, sometimes with house positioned on higher ground and lawned garden running down to water.



Above: Waterside home at Oulton Broad, positioned parallel to the street and Broad, with a street-facing and waterside garden with private moorings. Situated on higher ground with the garden sloping down to the water's edge. The mass of the building is broken up through projecting elements, varied roof forms and chimney stacks.



Above: Waterside home at Irstead constructed from vernacular materials such as thatch and red brick and with a private mooring cut.

Waterside Homes (Marina)

Key Defining Qualities

- Located on water's edge
- Terraced or semi-detached homes
- 20th century planned, rather than piecemeal, development
- 'Marina' style; set palette and form
- Waterside access
- Ease of car access and provision, with car parking often provided to the rear street facing side of the property

- 3.42 The 'marina' style of waterside homes arises from the strong demand from the late 20th century for properties beside the water for both holiday and permanent use. This demand coincided with structural changes in the boatbuilding and boat hire industries, which had meant that less land was needed to support those businesses and operators were looking for opportunities to diversify.
- 3.43 'Marina' developments reflect contemporary architectural development of the late 20th and early 21st century. Architecturally they are similar to ubiquitous coastal developments of that time, notably, in the south and east of England. The design of these buildings does not necessarily reflect the Broads' vernacular.
- 3.44 As with the other waterside homes, they address the water. However, the notable difference is the smaller individual plot sizes and the subsequent scale and form of these buildings. Smaller terraced houses are common, and the smaller size of the homes and gardens means that they sit closer to the river, often with a small external patio area next to the river.
- 3.45 Building lines are generally irregular, with a mix of projecting and recessed elements and gables, often with verandas and / or balconies adding to the elevational mix. There is often an extensive use of dormer windows, the prominence of which is highlighted by a change in material at upper floor levels.
- 3.46 The homes themselves tend to be conventionally configured, modern homes, with small street-side front gardens or front doors directly onto the street. This type of development is often within or on sites that have historically been part of a boatyard or associated light industry. Where the previous use continues on adjacent land this can result in conflict between the different uses, but does result in lively and varied areas.

Key Features of Waterside Homes (Marina)



Above: The aerial view demonstrates some of the characteristics of typical waterside home development - see numbers below (credit: Bluesky International Ltd & Getmapping PLC)

1. Public riverside access
2. Groups of houses and flats, often terraced and with a consistent design
3. Varied roof form and dormer windows
4. Small riverside private outdoor space
5. Vehicular access and better landside access than chalets
6. Modest or no street-facing garden



Above: Figure ground showing typical marina waterside homes and their relationship to other buildings and the land and water around them © Crown Copyright

Example Locations

- Loddon Quay, Loddon (in [Loddon and Chedgrave Conservation Area](#))
- Staithe Way, Wroxham (in [Wroxham Conservation Area](#))
- River View, Beccles (in [Beccles Conservation Area](#))
- Ferry Road, Horning

Prevailing Characteristics

- a) Period: 1980-2010
- b) Height: 2-3 floors
- c) Building Type: Terraced, semi-detached or detached
- d) Streetside Garden: Between 2-4m
- e) Waterside Garden: Between 2-8m
- f) Floor Area Ratio: 0.5 - 0.8
- g) Roof form: Mixed (Gable/Hipped) with Dormers
- h) Plot sizes: Around 7 x 20m
- i) Building coverage ratio: 0.3 – 0.5

Prevailing Materials:



Clay or concrete tiles



Varied roofline



Mix of cladding materials

Roof, Form and Heights

- 3.47 These homes often have a staggered terraced form, with buildings of two storeys, or occasionally 2.5 storeys with accommodation in the roof lit by dormers.

Elevations and Detailing

- 3.48 Marina-type waterside homes often incorporate a mix of projecting and recessed elements and gables, along with terraces, verandahs and first floor balconies. There is sometimes a change in material for upper floor levels. There is often a more simple architectural treatment on the street-side of the building.

Access and Water

- 3.49 Homes can be accessed by both road and water, with either private or shared car parking provided to the street-side.

Spaces

- 3.50 Buildings sit close to the river with a small terrace or patio / garden area on the river frontage. To the street-side they either sit directly fronting the street or a car parking area or have small courtyard type garden.



Above: A terrace of waterside (marina) homes in Loddon, with a varied roof form and use of brick and render to break up the massing and provide visual interest.



Above: Terrace of waterside (marina) homes in Beccles with typical red brick and varied roof forms, along with a consistency of design.



Boatyards



Above: Traditional boatyard at Ludham, with large timber-clad buildings, gables fronting the water and the far building demonstrating clerestory windows beneath the building's eaves line.

Key defining qualities

- A mixture of large sheds of different volumes arranged around yards, inlets and waterways in an apparently ad-hoc manner often dictated by function.
- Also comprising boat cranes, moorings and slipways.

3.51 Although boat building yards for trading vessels have existed for centuries, the boatyards we see today largely stem from the advent of sailing and holiday cruising on the Broads from the late 19th century onwards. Boatyards developed their own vernacular of simple, lightweight timber boatsheds, suited to both the uncertain subsoils of the wetlands and to the carpentry traditions of the boatbuilder.

3.52 The prevailing use of timber for the structure, external cladding and fenestration, gave consistency, which was echoed in the manner of adding new sheds in battery formation as the yard expanded. In more recent years, the use of painted corrugated iron for roofs

and walls has become more common. The gable-ended sheds, with their large doors, timber quay-heading and the boats themselves, made up the boatyard scene. A certain harmony arose from the functional relationship of boats, boatsheds and the waterside environment, which is still discernible where earlier sheds still exist, although in many cases this character has since been eroded.

- 3.53 Boatyards are intertwined with the function and enjoyment of the Broads and are a distinctive part of its character as well as being essential to its economy. Although they were historically used for boat building, many boatyards now focus on boat maintenance, repair and storage, as well as offering on-site mooring and boat hire. Some sites have reduced in size with pockets of housing or holiday accommodation around their periphery. Some locations are intermixed with waterside chalets which show the close relationship of different activities on the waterways. In such cases, although the boatyards are commercial or industrial in nature, their relationship to water makes neighbouring residential more palatable

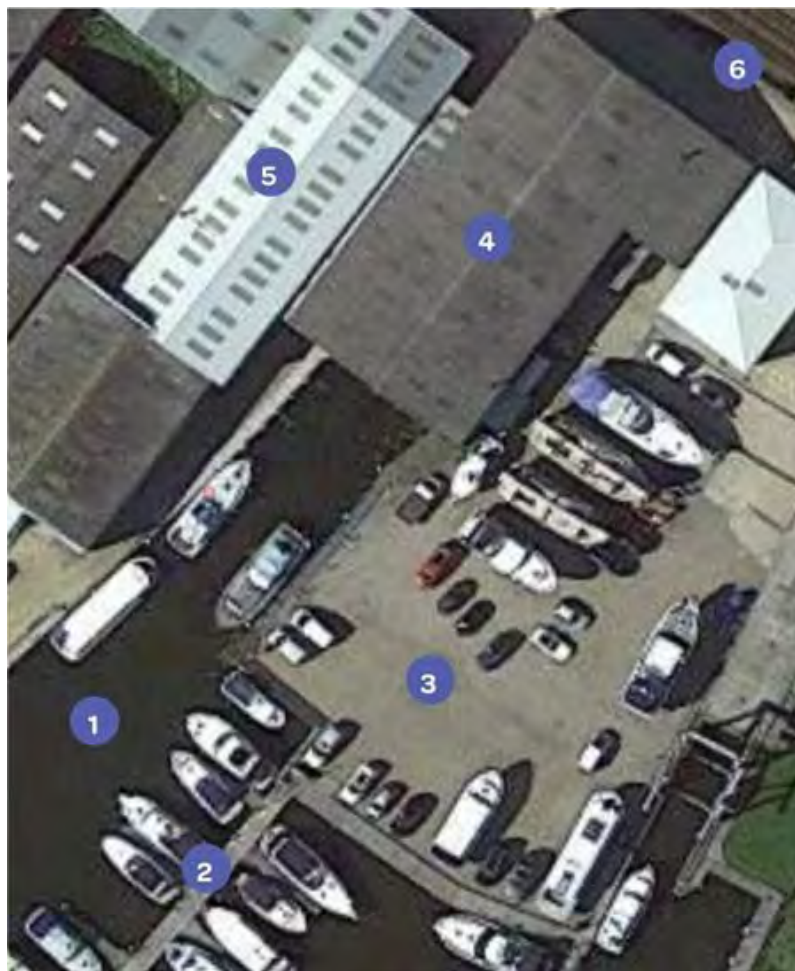
Activities within boatyards include:

- Boat building
- Boat maintenance, repair and restoration
- Refitting
- Sail making and rigging
- Engineering services
- Electrical services
- Under cover and outside storage
- Moorings
- Cranage and boat launching
- Chandlery
- Recreational boat hire
- Facilities for holiday makers or day trippers (WCs, showers, kiosks)

- 3.54 Boatyards vary in size and the number of businesses they support, and boatyards can be grouped close together, especially in locations where there is good access to the water. Their form and layout will reflect the nature of the work they have done historically as well as what they do now and their development needs will be influenced by changing practices in the industry. Typically, yards which build will need taller sheds than those that do not, as they need space for cranes and tall machinery, while a yard which hires boats out will need car parking for customers' vehicles.

3.55 Most boatyards have moorings within their site and these can be for their own boats (which may be available for hire), for customers' boats or for visiting craft. These moorings may be located alongside the land, off a floating pontoon or within a mooring basin and the combination of land and water, boats and buildings contributes strongly to the distinctive character of this element of the Broads.

Key Features of Boatyards



Above: The aerial view demonstrates some of the characteristics of typical boatyard development - see numbers below (credit: Bluesky International Ltd & Getmapping PLC)

1. Direct connection to the water
2. Numerous inlets, mooring and pontoons
3. Yards for manoeuvring storage and maintenance
4. Medium to large building footprints
5. Regular building form
6. Good road connection



Above: Figure ground showing relationship of built form to open spaces and water in typical boatyard © Crown Copyright

Example Locations

- Hoveton
- Brundall
- Wroxham
- Beccles (some in [Beccles Conservation Area](#))
- Stalham Staithe (some in [Stalham Staithe Conservation Area](#))

Prevailing Characteristics

- a) Period: 19th century - 2020
- b) Height: 1-2 floors
- c) Building Type: Large boatsheds with ancillary machinery and structures
- d) Parking: expansive
- e) Building line: Staggered - Random
- f) Building footprint: min 7 x 15m - max 20 x 55m
- g) Yard size: c. 40 x 50m or more
- h) Floor Area Ratio: 0.5
- i) Building Coverage Ratio: 0.4 - 0.5

Prevailing Materials:



Clerestory windows

Profiled metal sheeting

Timber cladding

Roof, Form and Height

3.56 Roofs tend to be of a low to modest pitch in gable form, with the ridge running the long width of the building and the gables fronting the river. Often buildings are attached and create a rhythmic roof composition; this is varied with different widths, ridge heights and pitches. Buildings are generally of a large format with minimal windows and skylights.

Elevations and Detailing

- 3.57 Architecture is often austere and utilitarian. The changing scale of the simple forms from one building to the next provides the interest.
- 3.58 Rows of clerestory windows often run beneath the eaves.
- 3.59 The buildings have large hanger doors that are left open whilst in use.
- 3.60 More interesting examples of these building types feature painted sheet metal, timber cladding, recesses or signage.

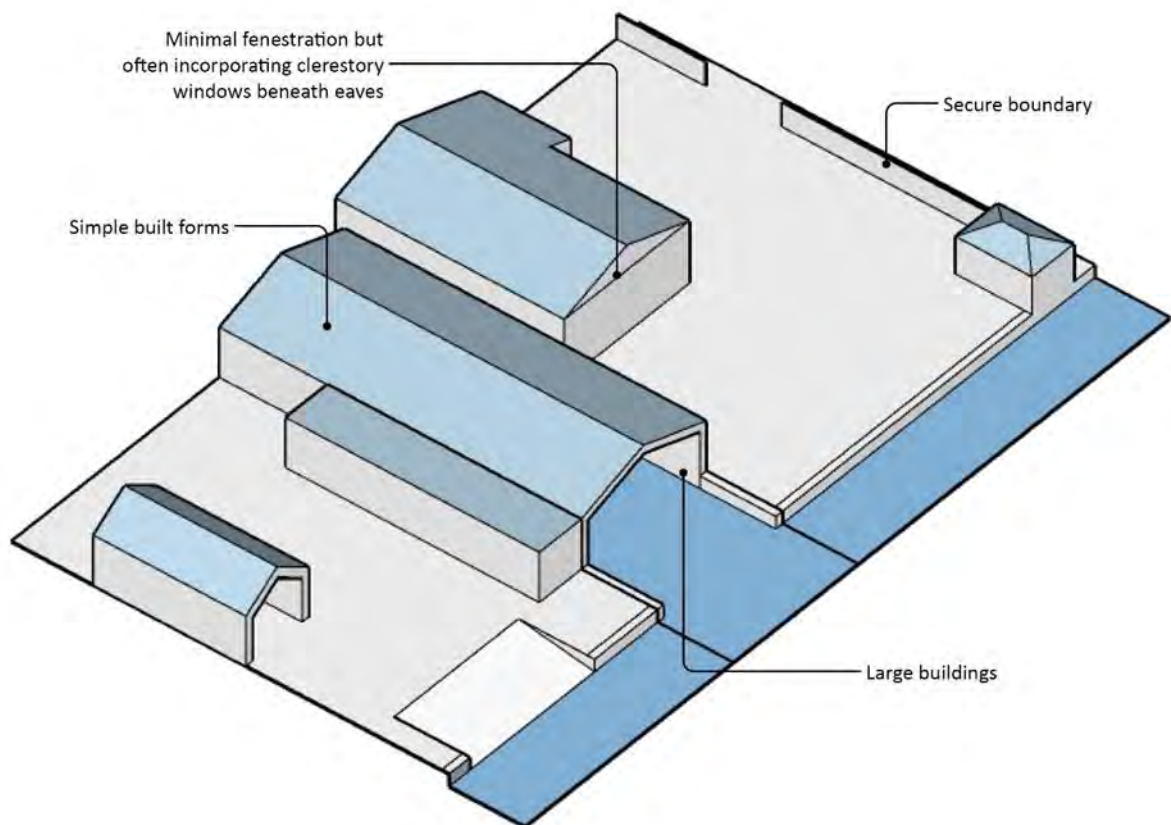
Access and Water

- 3.61 Boatyards are generally accessed by a publicly maintained road, typically on a main road in or near a settlement. Often access and junctions are designed for large vehicles and at times pedestrian access can be poor. Many yards provide areas of parking for customers and associated businesses. Typically, they are bounded by a security fence with lockable gates. Often there is no through route for pedestrians or cars, with only a single point of access.
- 3.62 Water access is inseparable from the function of a boat yard, many of which are penetrated by inlets that maximise the efficient use of space and facilities within the boatyards. These inlets, together with open yards and the informal layout of buildings, contribute to the flexibility and adaptability of locations for the different size, purposes and number of vessels that can be serviced. The variety of buildings, yards and inlets

demonstrates the informal growth and change of the boatyards over time.

Spaces

- 3.63 Spaces around the buildings are largely made up of yards, enclosing a significant amount of activity and operation. Business and industrial activities do not always take place under cover or within a building. The yards are often inseparable to the use, function and access to adjoining buildings and waterways. They often feature large apparatus and plant such as boat cranes. Generally, they are occupied by a mix of cars and boats in an informal manner as the needs of the yard changes with the seasons. They are usually hard surfaced and do not often feature planting, although sometimes there are grassed areas and peninsulas. The large areas of hardstanding, car parking and visual clutter caused by various apparatus, can result in them being detractors to the landscape.





Above: typical boatyards in Barton Turf, Thorpe St Andrew and Wroxham (top to bottom), with large boatsheds of varying heights but similar forms with a prominent gable fronting the water's edge and the use of metal and timber cladding.



Historic Clusters



Above: the village of Ranworth viewed from the Staithe

Key defining qualities:

- Generally, comprise clusters of pre-20th century buildings on narrow streets as part of settlements once dependent on the waterways.
- Architecturally buildings can vary, due to different ages of the buildings
- There can be a denser form of development than in other areas

3.64 Historically these settlements were closely related to the water in the way in which they functioned, with most agricultural, domestic and other goods arriving and departing the settlement via the quay or staithe. The relationship with the water is still an important part of the settlement's character. The buildings are similar to those found in villages across East Anglia. These clusters are often found as part of larger settlements that straddle the Broads Authority boundary. Often these buildings have changed in use over time and have been closely related to agriculture, rural trades and subsistence with trade via the waterways.

- 3.65 As these settlements developed over many hundreds of years, different architectural styles can be found in close proximity. However, despite this variety there are commonalities in the scale, use of materials and the position of the buildings in relation to streets, each other and the water.
- 3.66 The variety of buildings types adds to the richness of these environments with detached, semi-detached and terraced properties, as well as the juxtaposition between commercial and residential buildings. Generally, the properties positioned in close proximity to one another with a dense grain of development.
- 3.67 Properties were located away from marshy areas or those that regularly flooded. These settlements are now easily accessible by road or sometimes rail with water access mostly being for amenity and recreation.

Key Features of Historic Clusters



Above: the aerial view demonstrates some of the characteristics of typical waterside home development - see numbers below (credit: Bluesky International Ltd & Getmapping PLC)

1. Properties front onto street
2. Denser form of development with clusters of buildings

3. Consistent property line
4. Less dominant connection to water
5. Medium sized back gardens
6. Gable/cross gable roof form common



Above: Figure ground showing typical plan form of historic cluster development
© Crown Copyright

Example Locations:

- Coltishall (in [Coltishall and Horstead Conservation Area](#))
- Belaugh (in [Belaugh Conservation Area](#))
- Stokesby
- Thurne
- Reedham
- Ranworth
- Northgate and Puddingmoor, Beccles (in [Beccles Conservation Area](#))
- Bridge Street, Bungay (in [Bungay Conservation Area](#))

Prevailing Characteristics

- (a) Period: 1500 – 1920s
- (b) Height: 1-2 Floors
- (c) Building Type: Terraces and buildings attached to one another

- (d) Parking: 1
- (e) Front Garden: 0-2m
- (f) Rear Garden: 5-20m
- (g) Building Line: Continuous – Staggered
- (h) Plot Sizes: min 5x15m - max 25x40m
- (i) Floor Area Ratio: 0.5-1.1
- (j) Building Coverage Ratio: 0.3-0.7

Prevailing Materials



Painted brick, pantiles



Coloured render



Flint and gault brick dressings

Roof, Form and Height

- 3.68 Buildings are often of a regular shape though at times can be irregular with walls angled to accommodate a street or a neighbouring property.
- 3.69 Roofs are generally pitched, sometimes with parapeted gables and can feature dormer windows.
- 3.70 Traditional materials are used for roof coverings, predominantly clay pantiles, with some use of slate or water reed thatch.
- 3.71 Buildings can vary in height. Predominantly they have two storeys but can be single storey or occasionally have up to three storeys.

Elevations and Detailing

- 3.72 Buildings are generally of red brick, with examples of flint, painted brick and coloured render. They are relatively simple in design with subtle decorative features such as the

use of gauged brickwork over windows and doors, occasionally moulded brickwork, mock timber framing and knapped flintwork.

- 3.73 Windows and doors are often traditional in design.
- 3.74 There has been some modern and contemporary infill that are of mixed success. The good examples respond to the local vernacular and context to positively contribute to the sense of place.

Uses and Activities

- 3.75 Buildings have generally been adapted over time. Many exhibit signs of former uses as pubs, shops, light industry or warehouses and have since been converted to homes, offices or other commercial uses. Often these changes are evident within the frontages of buildings, roof form or remnants of former doors and windows. Although residential dominates most areas, streets may contain a small amount of workspaces, offices, retail and leisure.

Access and Water

- 3.76 Historic settlements tend to be set a distance from the Broads or on the upper reaches of tributaries that are outside the Broads Authority boundary. Where they are close to the water there are some homes with similarity to Waterside Detached homes, such as large gardens leading to the water's edge. Many settlements retain public access to the waterside, either via staithes (Belaugh and Irstead), a river frontage (Reedham and Coltishall) or narrow alleyways ('The Scores' in Beccles). Historically, these would have been used for subsistence and trade, but today provide important views and access to the water for all.

Spaces

- 3.77 Streets are formed gradually over time and demonstrate evidence of historic land use and ownership. Buildings sit close to streets and spaces, creating a dense, more urban grain. Properties often have their primary elevation facing the street, sometimes with front doors directly onto the footway. Properties either have small front gardens or sit directly on the street edge.
- 3.78 In places, streets can be narrow with no pavements. Parking is generally constrained, either on plot or on-street. Some older garages and drives are not easily accessible.
- 3.79 Properties tend to be located on long, narrow plots, which either have no or modest front gardens. Private rear gardens can be either small courtyard-style gardens or large in size and tend to be well enclosed, sometimes with an open river frontage. Where gardens and streets have been changed to accommodate modern requirements for bins, servicing, storage and parking, it has at times had a detrimental effect on the street scene.



Above: A view of Thurne, with the historic cluster of development viewed from the opposite riverbank.



Above left: Thatched cottages in Ludham, with painted brick, render and timber joinery and building line directly on the pavement.



Above right: single storey flint cottage in Reedham with red pantile roof with dormer windows lighting accommodation in the roof space.



Above left: brick terraced housing in Stalham Staithe, with pantile roofs and small front gardens with a brick boundary wall.
Above right: Close-knit development at The Score in Beccles, with a mix of buildings constructed from various vernacular materials.



Rural Homes



Above: Rural homes in Tunstall

Key Defining Qualities:

- There are a wide variety of different Rural Home types, ranging from 20th century bungalows and local authority housing, to 19th century workers' cottages and substantial detached properties.
- Low density homes, with sizable garden
- Can be detached, semi-detached or terraced
- Represent incremental growth of hamlets and village fringes or development associated with the agricultural industry

3.80 These low-density homes are often the result of late 19th century or 20th century growth of hamlets or villages, often on their fringes or alternatively were built as worker's homes in proximity to farms. Streets sometimes comprise a mix of 'Historic Clusters' and 'Rural Homes'. Generally, these are distinct from historic clusters in that they are much lower density, with larger plots (and gardens), set along lanes and occasionally cul-de-sacs. Often, they are arranged in a linear pattern along a road. Sometimes just one side of a road will have development with open-fields, woodland or marshes on the other,

providing a pleasant outlook for homes. At times these are located on a ridge where the landscape transitions between the agricultural landscape on higher ground and the openness of the Broads on the slightly lower ground.

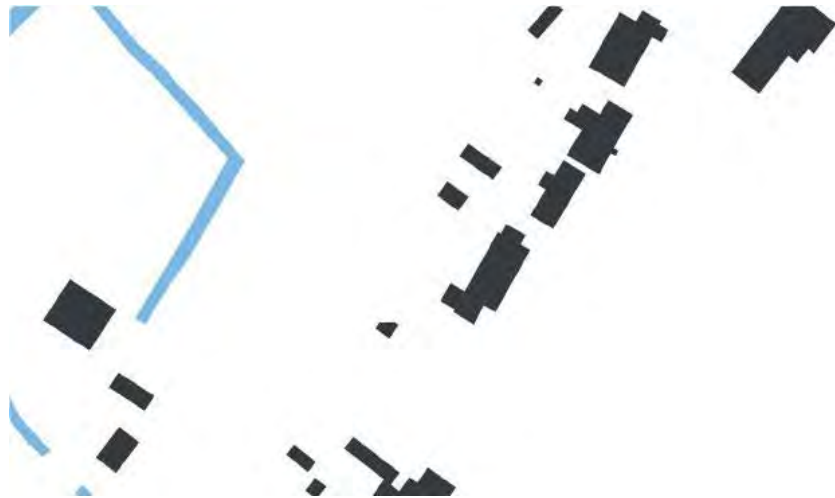
- 3.81 Private drives and garages are often included on the plots due to their larger size and location. There is some variety in built form, especially due to extensions and adaption. Buildings are often 1-2 storeys in height and are relatively wide.
- 3.82 The appearance and detail are often representative of the style of the time with a mix of Georgian, Victorian and mid-20th century. The latter sometimes comprise of simple single-storey bungalows. Older properties tend to be substantial with a deliberate order and design, whereas more recent homes tend to be plainer and moresimple.

Key Features of Rural Homes



Above: The aerial view demonstrates some of the characteristics of typical rural home development - see numbers below (credit: Bluesky International Ltd & Getmapping PLC)

1. Semi-detached/detached or terraced properties
2. Spacious back gardens
3. Wide fronted home set back from street
4. Varied property frontage
5. Incremental periods of development
6. Strong relationship with open fields



Above: Figure ground showing typical plan form of built form to open space in rural home development © Crown Copyright

Example Locations

- Ormesby St Michael
- Tunstall (in [Halvergate and Tunstall Conservation Area](#))
- Hardley Street
- Langley Street
- Dilham

Prevailing Characteristics

- (a) Period: 1800 - 2020
- (b) Height: 1-2 Floors
- (c) Building Type: Detached, semi-detached or terraced

- (d) Parking: 1-3
- (e) Front Garden: 5-8m
- (f) Rear Garden: 10-16m
- (g) Building Line: Staggered Broken
- (h) Plot Sizes: min 10x30m max 15x80m
- (i) Floor Area Ratio: 0.3-0.6
- (j) Building Coverage Ratio: 0.2-0.4

Prevailing Materials:



Red brick



Thatch



Thatch and render

Roof, Form and Height

3.83 Homes are often of a similar size and scale, set either over 1, 1.5 or 2 floors.

3.84 More recent homes tend to be larger in scale.

3.85 Generally, roofs comprise a mix of gable and cross gable forms, often punctuated by chimneys.

Elevations and Detailing

3.86 Buildings generally comprise red brick with a clay pantile-covered roof. In some instances water reed thatch or slate can also be used.

3.87 Walls tend to be built from Norfolk red brick, with some painted brickwork or coloured render and flintwork also found.

3.88 Recent developments often draw inspiration from historic references and use traditional materials such as render and brick dressings.

- 3.89 Windows are generally a mix of timber sash or modern casement windows.
- 3.90 Buildings sometimes have projecting or recessed porches; bay windows are unusual.
- 3.91 The principal elevation tends to face the street with a more modest treatment at the rear.

Access and Water

- 3.92 Many homes feature private drives found either at the side or the front of the property. Many have garages and / or turning spaces, though this is not always the case.
- 3.93 These properties infrequently have river access but occasionally have drainage ditches acting as a boundary.

Spaces

- 3.94 Buildings are often arranged along lanes that lead between farms and villages. These tend to be narrow but can normally accommodate two cars passing but do not feature a pavement. Some more recent developments on the edge of villages do incorporate a footway.
- 3.95 Buildings are frequently arranged on only one side of the street with open fields on the other.
- 3.96 Generally, homes are set in a large plot and have large rear gardens providing good amenity space for high occupancy homes. Contemporary developments tend to have more modest gardens.
- 3.97 Front gardens tend to provide some planting and a driveway and parking. Gardens tend to have been personalised, more ornamental and formal (opposed to natural and informal), with planting over time and frequently include trees and established shrubs and low-level planting, with native hedging as a boundary treatment.



Above: Examples of Rural Homes



Farmsteads



Above: Farm at Ludham, with buildings positioned directly adjacent to the road and single storey buildings forming farmyards within the site.

Key defining qualities:

- Isolated clusters of buildings positioned either directly on lanes or set back from the public highway amongst fields and accessed via long private tracks.
- Farmsteads accommodate a variety of different building types relating to their agricultural use. Often have historic origins and contain both historic and more modern building types.
- Farmhouses are often positioned facing the road on a plot immediately adjoining the farm to which they are related, rather than within the farmyard and have a more domestic setting.

3.98 Farmsteads were often formed in the 18th or 19th centuries and contain historic buildings that were built for a particular use, with the form and design of the building reflecting that function, for example, as a pig sty, a threshing barn or cattle shed. The design and arrangement of the buildings, reflects the local materials that

were available, as well as local farming practices.

- 3.99 In the Broads, farm buildings such as barns are not commonly found remote from the farmstead and instead tend to be situated in close proximity to one another, often arranged around a farmyard, or series of adjoining yards. This creates clusters of buildings in the landscape, often with historic buildings at the core and larger-scale more modern structures such as metal-clad barns or silos towards the edge of the farm site.
- 3.100 As farming methods and requirements have changed, many traditional buildings have become redundant and so buildings have been adapted for new agricultural practices or different uses. Since the late 20th century, many have been converted for uses such as residential or holiday accommodation or commercial use. This means some farms have transitioned from being occupied and managed by one party to having multiple different users and activities on site.
- 3.101 Further guidance from Historic England is also available, such as [Farm Buildings and Traditional Farmsteads](#) and the [Historic Farmsteads Preliminary Character Statement – East of England region](#).

Often farmsteads comprise of:

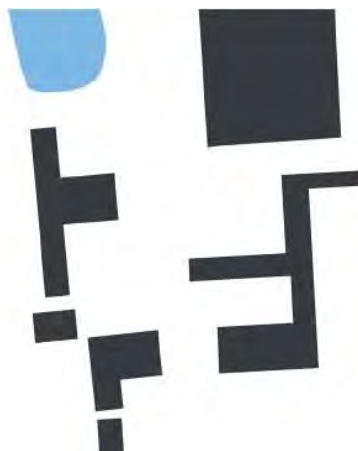
- Farmhouse
- Workers' cottages
- Barns
- Workshops
- Stores (small and large scale)
- Animal housing and shelters
- Silos

Key Features of Farmsteads



Above: Aerial view of typical farmstead (Bluesky International Ltd & Getmapping PLC)

1. Properties informally arranged around historic farmyard
2. Larger footprint barns/outbuildings
3. Typically pitched roof form with gable ends
4. Private driveway



Above: Figure ground showing relationship between buildings and open space in typical farmstead © Crown Copyright

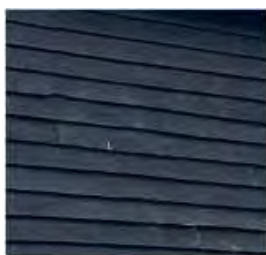
Example Locations:

- Stokesby Hall Farm
- Herringby Hall Farm
- Claxton Manor Farm
- Clippesby Hall Farm
- Manor Farm, Tunstall (in [Halvergate and Tunstall Conservation Area](#))

Prevailing Characteristics

- a) Period: 1500 - 2000
- b) Height: 1-2 floors
- c) Building Type: Detached
- d) Parking: 4+ spaces
- e) Rear Garden: 6-10m
- f) Building Line: Courtyard
- g) Floor Area Ratio: <0.1
- h) Building Coverage Ratio: <0.1

Prevailing Materials:



Timber cladding



Flintwork



Red pantiles



Thatch and parapeted gables



Painted masonry



Flint and red brick



Metal sheet cladding



Open-sided shelter

Uses

- 3.102 Many are still functional farms, although modern farming practices often require larger buildings which has meant that some smaller buildings have become redundant and larger modern structures have been erected.
- 3.103 Some buildings have been converted or adapted to other uses such as private homes, holiday accommodation, workshops or offices.
- 3.104 Historic farmhouses are normally still in residential use and are often still associated with the farm but are occasionally now in separate ownership.

Roof, Form and Height

- 3.105 The form tends to be varied and incrementally extended over time to meet the needs of the farm. This creates a varied composition within the cluster of buildings.
- 3.106 Historic large (threshing) barns frequently have parapeted brick gables with steep pitched roof slopes that would have been (or still are) thatched with water reed. In some instances, the thatch has been replaced with pantiles or corrugated metal.
- 3.107 Single storey outbuildings often form courtyards and have hipped, pantile roofs. More modern farm buildings tend to be larger in scale with lower pitched, sheet metal roofs.

Elevations and Detailing

- 3.108 Buildings are generally functional, have developed over time and have different proportions, all of which reflect the use for which they were built.
- 3.109 Often comprise a mix of materials, for example red brick plinths, with flint panels or timber cladding, or wholly Norfolk red bricks.
- 3.110 Detailing and dressing tends to be modest. Agricultural buildings often have large areas of blind walls with limited openings, restricted to small slit windows and large functional doors.

Access and Water

- 3.111 Farmsteads are generally set away from the water, although the farmland associated with the farm may be adjacent to the waterways.
- 3.112 Some farms have ponds and drainage ditches within their sites.
- 3.113 Farms are either accessed directly from the road into the farmyard or alternatively access is via a private track, with the farmstead sat amongst the fields or marshland.

Buildings are generally arranged around a courtyard. Both courtyard and track tend to be unmade or gravelled, although those on a working farm or where there are new uses may be concreted or upgraded.

Spaces

3.114 Generally, buildings are arranged to form one or multiple farmyards. These are used for farming activity and storage of plant. Where buildings have been converted these can be used for amenity space, access and car parking.

3.115 Farmyards are functional spaces with little soft landscaping or greenery, although the rural position of farmsteads means there is normally plenty of greenery immediately adjacent to the farmstead and often within the adjoining farmhouse garden.

3.116 Farmhouses or workers' housing tend to have modest to large gardens.



Above: Examples of farmstead buildings, in agricultural use and converted to residential use (bottom row)

PART TWO: The Design Code



Above: An aerial view showing a cluster of buildings by the Broad in Ranworth.

4. The Design Code Approach

10.1 The over-arching aim of the design code is to deliver high quality places that:

- Provide sustainable buildings, places and neighbourhoods
- Protect and enhance biodiversity and the natural environment
- Preserve and enhance the historic environment and the Broads' cultural heritage
- Promote health and well-being
- Create inclusive streets, spaces and homes for balanced communities

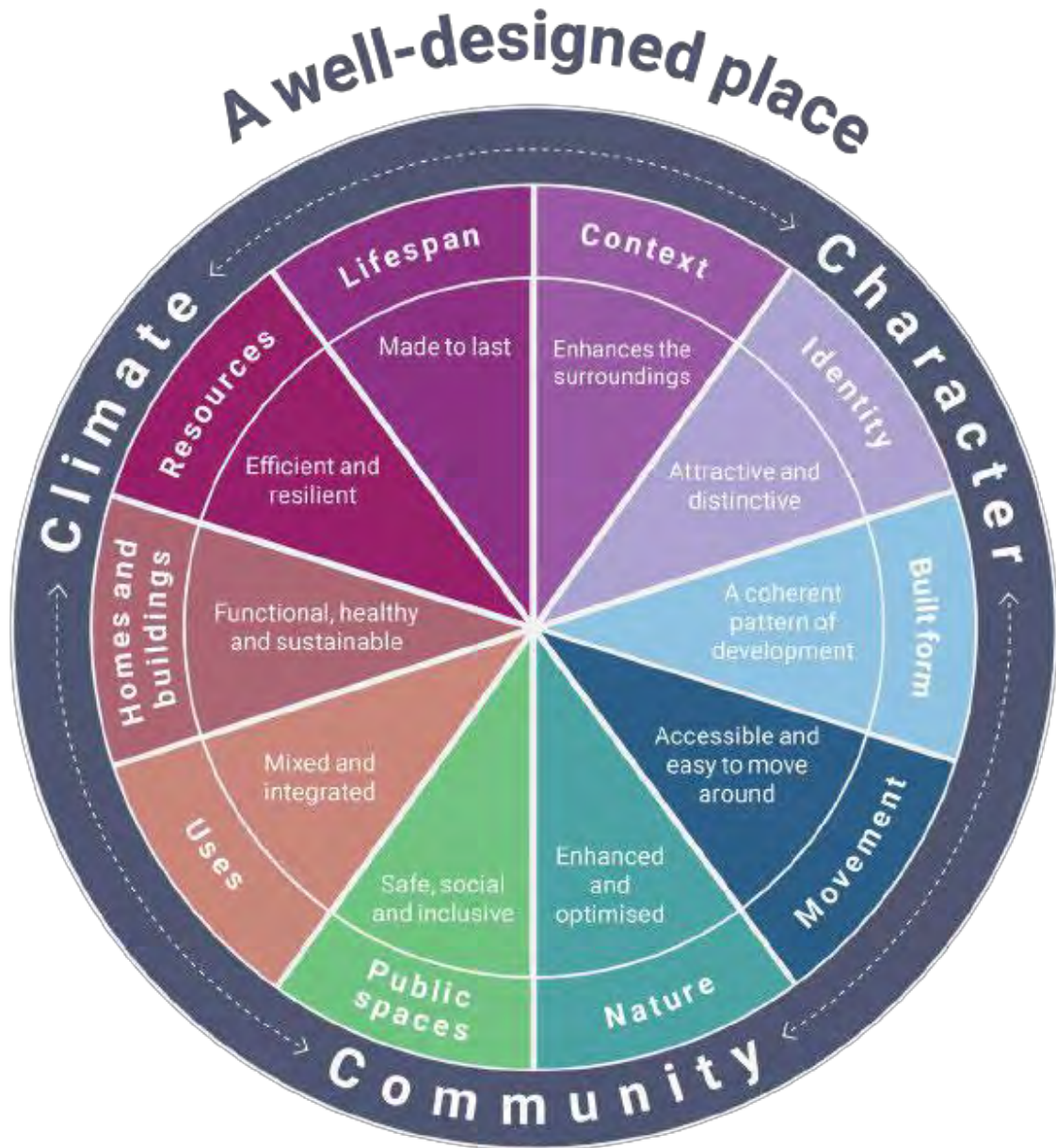
10.2 These themes can be seen as a common thread through all the codes with each contributing to the enhancement of the Broads.

10.3 The National Design Guide defines a well-designed place as one with these characteristics:

- **Context** enhances the surroundings.
- **Identity** attractive and distinctive.
- **Built Form** a coherent pattern of development.
- **Movement** accessible and easy to move around.
- **Nature** enhanced and optimised.
- **Public spaces** safe, social and inclusive.
- **Uses** mixed and integrated.
- **Homes and Buildings** functional, healthy and sustainable.
- **Resources** efficient and resilient.
- **Lifespan** made to last.

10.4 Good design must incorporate all of these characteristics. However, given the status of the Broads as a protected landscape it is all the more important that the natural environment is protected, biodiversity enhanced, and the landscape setting valued. Equally, the cultural heritage of the Broads must be conserved and enhanced, with design that reflects the area's distinctive identity and harmonises with the wider landscape.

10.5 Instructions for using the Design Code can be found in the introduction to this document in section 2 of this document on pages 11 and 12.



Above: 'The Ten Characteristics of a Well-Designed Place' from the National Design Guide, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, 2021

5. The Design Codes: General codes applicable to all building types

Codes are identified by the prefix 'BA'



Context

BA 1 Relationship to the site, local and wider context

Proposals for new development must demonstrate an understanding of the context of the proposed site by analysing key contextual features, such as topography, landscape character and natural features, the historic context including the setting of heritage assets, the layout of streets and buildings and typical form and details. It must be demonstrated how these have influenced the design of the proposed place and how the proposed design responds to the local identity and reinforces local distinctiveness. This is particularly important in relation to development in conservation areas where development should preserve or enhance the conservation area and in relation to the setting of the heritage assets.

Built Form

Building Form, Scale and Massing

BA 2 Roof Form

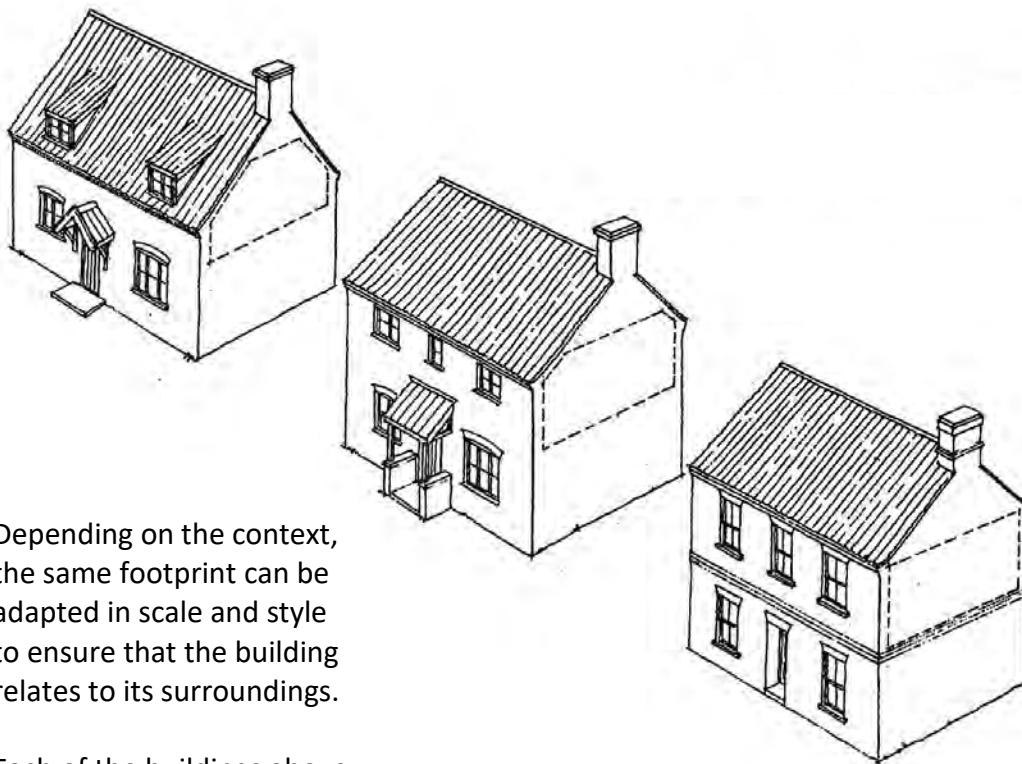
BA2 -1 General

- Proposals must clearly demonstrate how they are proposing to reflect the predominant roofscape of the area.
- Uniform ridge heights must be avoided, with slight variation required.
- Unless there is good justification, roofs must be hipped or pitched with gables, either perpendicular or parallel to a street, waterway or public space, depending on the prevailing arrangement.

BA 3 Height and Storeys

BA3-1 General

- Buildings must comprise 1-2 storeys, additional floors may be possible if supported by the context such as on a split-level site or within a village centre. Often it is in keeping with the character to have accommodation within the roof space benefiting from dormer windows.
- New residential development must be compatible with national flood risk policy, which takes a precautionary approach. Where it is proposed to raise floor levels in any development, the impact of this on the overall height and scale of the building must be considered. In such cases, drawings to illustrate how the proposed building will relate to its surroundings must be submitted with planning applications.

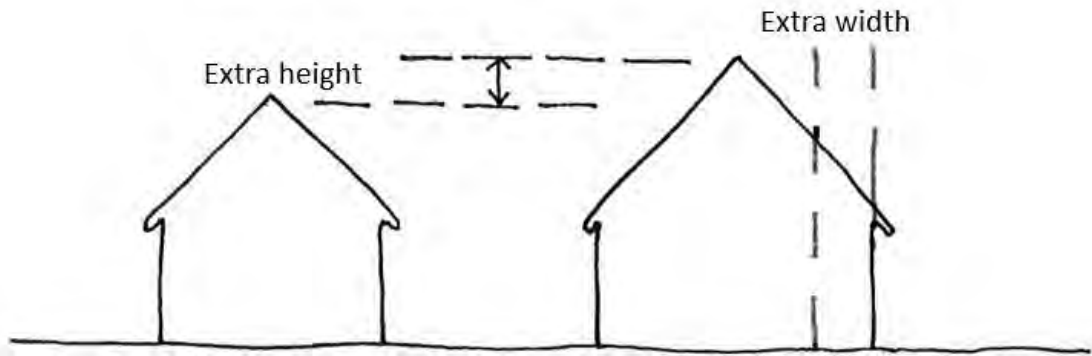


Depending on the context, the same footprint can be adapted in scale and style to ensure that the building relates to its surroundings.

Each of the buildings above has three bays.

BA 4 Width and Bays

BA4-1 A bay is the vertical division of a building, normally on the front elevation (see image above). Buildings must have an appropriate number of bays and widths for their context, the size of the plot and to comply with good design principles, for example symmetry (where appropriate) and proportion.



Above: the width of the plan of a building can affect its overall scale. This must be considered.

BA5 Building Line

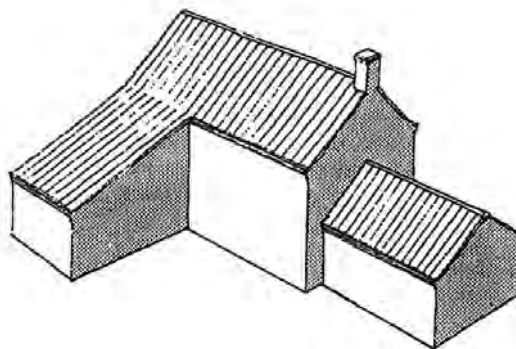
BA5-1 General

- The building line must be uniform, continuous and aligned to the front, be it close to the street edge, set back behind a street-facing garden or arranged parallel to the river. Staggering the building line must only be an exception.

BA 6 Setback

BA6-1 General

- A setback (from the road or water frontage) must be informed by the prevailing building line.



Above: Extensions should be subordinate to the host building. For example, the height should be less than the host building and side extensions should be set back from the front and rear elevations of the main building.

BA 7 Extensions

BA7-1 General

- Where appropriate, extensions must be subservient and comprise a small portion of the total floor area. They must meet the prerequisite codes on building line, set back, roof form and storeys. Extensions must be subservient to the main property in their form, design and chosen materials, relate to their wider context and must not substantially reduce the value and amenity of outdoor space.

BA 8 Outbuildings

BA8-1 General

- Outbuildings must be clearly distinguishable from the main building. The function of the outbuilding must be wholly ancillary to the main building (i.e. not an independent unit of accommodation).
- The appearance of the outbuilding can be different to that of the main building, but it must be subservient to it.
- The appearance of the outbuilding must complement and relate to its context, in terms of design, materials and finishes. The context may be the main buildings, other buildings, the garden and / or the wider landscape.
- The location and size of an outbuilding must not substantially reduce or extinguish the amenity value of outdoor space. Consideration must be given to the positioning of the outbuilding on the site so that it has a direct visual relationship with other buildings and is not isolated or otherwise prominently positioned.

BA 9 Domestic Boathouses

BA9-1 General

- Boathouses must be for the storage and private maintenance of boats and are often ancillary to a home or chalet. The boathouse must be subservient to the main building in both its scale, form and appearance. It is encouraged that these buildings are well ventilated and have gaps within doors and elevations.
- The use of lightweight and vernacular materials such as timber must be used. Buildings must have steeply pitched roofs with low over-hanging eaves. Water reed thatch, timber shingles or corrugated metal roofing are likely to be acceptable dependant on the context.
- Boathouses must have pitched, not hipped, roofs with the gable facing the water.

- Where a first-floor balcony is proposed within the gable, this must be recessed and must not project beyond the front or rear elevation of the building. Dormer windows are unlikely to be considered appropriate on a boathouse.
- Where gates are required for the boat house these must be traditional and side-hung. On occasions, roller shutters may be considered appropriate, depending on the context and design. In these instances, the shutter must be recessed back from the boat shed's river-facing elevation.
- The appearance of the boathouse can be different to that of the main building, but it must be subservient to it.
- The appearance of the boathouse must complement and relate to its context, in terms of design, materials and finishes.
- The location and size of a boathouse must not substantially reduce or extinguish the amenity or landscape value of the space surrounding it or the setting of the host dwelling.



Above: Boathouse, with typical characteristics including use of vernacular materials, low overhanging eaves and inset balcony.

BA 10 Banks and Moorings

BA10-1 General

- Open riverbank is strongly characteristic of the Broads and is strongly encouraged. New quay heading on 'soft' riverbanks will not be acceptable in most areas, particularly rural sites. Retention of the natural bank helps to protect the special landscape character of these areas and also wildlife such as water voles, nesting birds and fish.
- The design of new and replacement moorings must be appropriate to the location and reflect and complement the character of the area, for example whether it is rural or urban or has special heritage considerations. The impact on wildlife must also be considered, as should the safety of users.
- Subject to engineering considerations, where there is an existing 'hard' bank, piling and/or quayheading is acceptable in principle. The type of materials which will be appropriate will depend on the location and context and should be in accordance with the Local Plan for the Broads and the Broads Authority's [Mooring Design Guide](#).
- The type of surfacing behind moorings must reflect the environment where the moorings are located. Grass or bark will be most appropriate in rural areas whereas in areas of high footfall other surfaces would be more suitable.
- At residential moorings, any ancillary facilities provided on site (this might include storage for bikes, rubbish, recycling and other residential paraphernalia), must be designed (in terms of its size, design and location) to have regard to the character and appearance of the area. Any amenity space and car parking must also be provided in a manner that is not of detriment to the character and appearance of the area.
- For more detailed guidance the Broads Authority's [Mooring Design Guide](#), the [Residential Moorings Guide](#) and the [River Bank Stabilisation Guide](#) should be referred to.



Above: Steel (left hand side) and timber (right hand side) quay heading, both with timber whaling boards and capping.

BA 11 Replacement Building

BA11-1 General

- Where the demolition of an existing building is proposed to enable a replacement building, there is a presumption in favour of repairing, refurbishing, re-using and re-purposing existing buildings over their demolition, where this is the most carbon-efficient option and the structure contributes, or can be suitably adapted, to the positive character of the area.
- Replacement buildings must complement the character of the local area and reinforce the distinctiveness of the wider Broads setting.
- Replacement buildings must match the footprint area of the existing building. Any increase must be proportional, justified and appropriate to the site.

Uses

BA 12 Conversion

BA12-1 General

- Requirements in the Broads Local Plan policies relating to the acceptability of building conversion must be met.
- The building must be capable of conversion without major rebuilding or substantial extension and should retain features of the original building that positively contribute to the character of the building. Changes to the building must be appropriate to its character, appearance and setting and must not result in an adverse effect on the wider Broads' landscape.

BA 13 Security

BA13-1 General

- The design and layout of development must be safe and secure, with natural surveillance. Measures to reduce the risk of crime and anti-social behaviour should be considered at an early stage so as not to be at the expense of overall design quality.
- All new development should confirm to the [Secured by Design](#) principles and be in line with the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CTPED) principles as appropriate. The [Secured by Design Interactive 3D Design Guide](#) may be of use.

BA 14 Social Cohesion

BA14-1 General

- Development proposals that aim to improve community safety in an appropriate manner will be supported.
- Proposals for larger developments should promote social inclusion and community cohesion by incorporating shared spaces for community interaction.
- Developers should comply with Healthy Planning requirements in the Local Plan for the Broads and the Norfolk and Waveney Planning in Health Protocol as appropriate. This will cover areas such as provision of space for growing food and the integration of new communities with existing ones.

Identity

BA 15 Frontages and Entrances

BA15-1 General

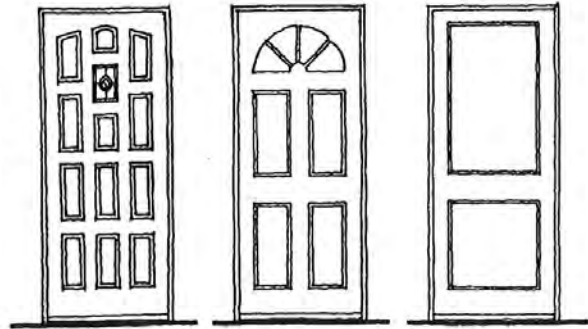
- All properties must have primary entrances in a prominent and visible location on the street-facing elevation. Properties should provide strong natural surveillance to all public spaces, be it streets, green spaces or waterways.

BA 16 Fenestration and glazing

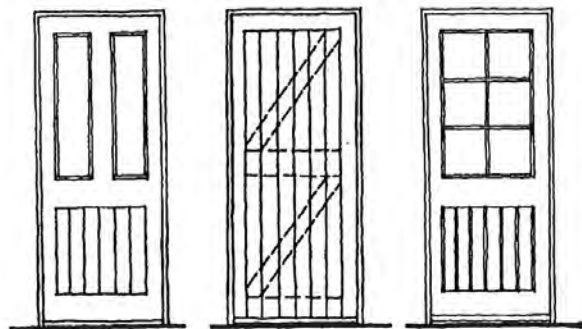
BA16-1 General

- Fenestration must be ordered across principal elevations (i.e. the front and rear), often displaying horizontal symmetry, vertical rhythm and variation between floors (i.e. ground and first). Consideration must be given to wall to window ratio to ensure pleasing building proportions.
- There must be some consistency in window design. Where individual windows and doors must be different to others for practical reasons, the height or overall proportions must relate to other windows or architectural features of the building.
- Fenestration should sit back from the wall plane within a recess with a reveal. In traditional-style chalet buildings this may be a shallow reveal, due to the relatively lightweight walls. In other building types it is expected that this will be greater.
- Design can often be enhanced by framing views out of the building with smaller, well-positioned windows. This also adds visual interest to elevations, reduces the extent of glazing, provides more useable internal wall space, less summertime over-heating and mitigates impact on protected Dark Sky zones.
- Fenestration design must have regard to '[Towards a Dark Sky Standard](#)' and be in accordance with the Local Plan for the Broads **Light pollution and dark skies policy**. Where necessary, mitigation measures such as a reduction in window size, the recessing of windows or managed solutions will be required.
- Doors should be appropriately designed for the style of the host building.

Over-fussy or poorly proportioned doors



Designs which are simple and have a link to local tradition



BA 17 Materials

BA17-1 General

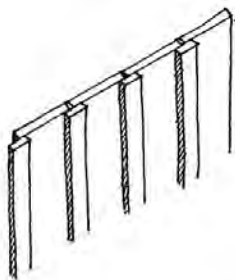
- The Broads are characterised by a limited palette of natural vernacular materials, predominantly: red pantiles, water reed thatch, timber shingles, red brick, coloured render, timber cladding and flint. These materials must be used as they reinforce local distinctiveness, are visually recessive and have a soft and natural texture that relates well to the wider landscape and helps new buildings to harmonise with their surroundings. Choice should be steered by context and can be applied differently to vary the design and composition of the building whilst responding to the local character.
- The appropriateness of sustainable design solutions that make use of natural materials must also be considered, for example green walls and roofs. These can be visually recessive and help to relate a new building to its wider landscape setting, whilst also providing benefits such as increasing biodiversity, reducing rainwater run-off, improving air quality and improving thermal performance which contributes to greater energy efficiency.



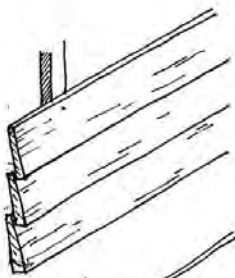
Above: The use of timber for the external materials of Carlton Marshes Visitor Centre help it to sit successfully within the sensitive landscape.

- Structures made with stainless steel or glass (e.g. balustrades) are therefore likely to appear incongruous and in most locations must not be used, due to their shiny and reflective qualities which are at odds with the predominant palette of materials found within the Broads.
- As set out in the Local Plan for the Broads policy, there is an expectation that high quality materials must be used in the Broads.
- All development must also take opportunities to reduce the development's embodied carbon content through the careful choice, use and sourcing of materials. Consideration must be given to their whole-life cycle: their manufacture, transportation, length of life, disposal and ease of repair, rather than replacement and disposal.
- Timber is a renewable resource that absorbs carbon as it grows. Depending on the quality of the timber and its maintenance, it should have a long life and individual elements can be repaired, rather than requiring wholesale replacement. It is also a biodegradable material so should not result in landfill or the use of more resources to enable its recycling. Therefore, the carbon footprint of timber will usually be lower than that of composite materials or oil-derived plastics and as such it will be preferred to those materials for windows, doors, decking and cladding. Timber also has a more natural, softer, and traditional appearance, with a less reflective finish and more texture than man-made products.

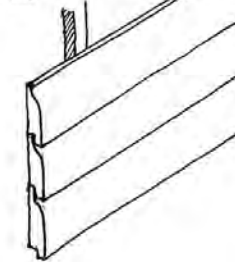
- Consideration must be given to:
 - Using locally sourced materials as they often have a lower carbon footprint and help to sustain the local economy;
 - Using responsibly salvaged or recycled materials, from former buildings on the site, nearby or within the region, as this can help to reduce the energy usage in the construction of the dwelling;
 - Using naturally renewable materials, (such as FSC certified timber), as these use less energy to produce than manufactured materials such as uPVC or other composite materials.



Vertical board and batten



Sawn featheredge boarding. This appropriate for boathouses, boatsheds and non-residential buildings.



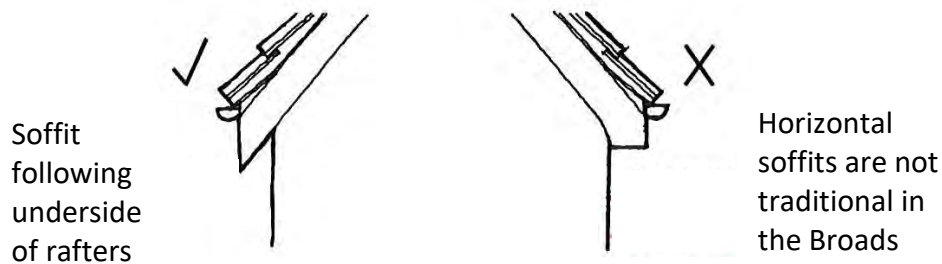
Planed shiplap boarding. This is more appropriate for residential buildings.

Above: Types of timber cladding using different boards.

BA 18 Detailing

BA18-1 General

- Architectural detailing must reflect the prevailing context and decorative traditions found within the Broads.



- It is the local tradition for gables (main gables and those on dormers and porches) to be finished at eaves-level with barge boards. The soffit (underside) of these bargeboards must be angled to follow the underside of the rafters rather than being horizontal.
- The finish, treatment and detailing of timber wall cladding should be considered, with a more rustic style for rural settings (e.g waney-edged) and more formal finish for built-up areas.
- The finish of soffits must be considered and should have an appropriate cladding or finish.



Above (left): a timber-clad soffit to a balcony, with a more formal shiplap cladding.

Above (right): waney-edge timber cladding. This is appropriate for non-residential buildings such as boatsheds, boathouses and outbuildings.

BA 19 Colour

BA19-1 General

- The colours of new materials must be complimentary to the established palette of local materials (red brick, red pantile, muted-coloured render and reed thatch, along with the colour of grey metal, flint and black pitch on timber).

Nature

BA 20 Boundaries

BA20-1 General

- Local Plan for the Broads policies should be complied with in relation to trees and hedges.
- Where gates are proposed adjacent to a public street or space, they must not exceed the height of the boundary treatment and must have gaps to enable views through.
- The design of gate piers must be appropriate to their setting and the host building.
- Rear boundaries, where adjacent to a publicly accessible area, must match the prevailing materials of the building or its neighbours.
- Soft landscaping must be used to delineate boundaries adjacent to open countryside and in other areas as appropriate.

BA 21 Biodiversity

BA21-1 General

- Gardens and outside spaces play an important role in the biodiversity of places. New development must retain and enhance the biodiversity on the site and create new habitats. Examples of biodiversity enhancing measures include: providing roosting / nesting spaces for bats, birds and invertebrates; using sustainable urban drainage systems (SUDS) or landscaping to create habitats; or managing an area for wildlife purposes.
- Developments must achieve Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) requirements as per national and local policy.
- The Broads Authority's [Biodiversity Enhancements Planning Guide](#) provides additional guidance and is relevant for all developments and provides advice to enhance biodiversity in a domestic setting.

BA 22 Gardens and landscaping

BA22-1 General

- All residential properties must comprise a street-facing garden where appropriate, following the prevailing building line and set back. Front gardens must be at least 1m deep with at least 700mm for planting.
- Gardens must predominantly contain soft landscaping and the inclusion of SuDS can be beneficial. As well as enhancing biodiversity and creating habitat, this provides better drainage in low-lying areas that are often prone to flooding.
- Excessive areas of hard landscaping, for example oversized driveways or patios, must be avoided in order to prevent excess rainwater run-off, potential issues with reflected heat and to improve visual appearance
- Planting ‘the right tree in the right place’ must be considered. Local Plan policies should be complied with in relation to trees and hedges.
- Planting must be maintained and should not obstruct lines of visibility, providing hiding places that facilitate crime or compromise safety, or shield lighting that could negatively impact natural surveillance.
- Further advice on landscaping can be found in the Broads Authority’s [Guide to Integrating Development into the Broads Landscape](#)

BA 23 Lighting and dark skies

BA23-1 General

- Development proposals must demonstrate that good lighting management and design has been applied. ‘Towards a Dark Sky Standard’ and be in accordance with the Local Plan for the Broads policy.

Resources

BA 24 Flood risk

BA24-1 General

- Multifunctional SuDS should be integrated into both hard and soft landscaping at the earliest stages of development. In heavily trafficked, high pollution areas it should be ensured that all surface water is suitably treated before discharge via the use of sufficient treatment train (see also BA25 Drainage).
- Replacement buildings need to be resilient and must adhere to national flood risk policy and advice from the Environment Agency who will be consulted on planning applications where appropriate.
- It is sometimes appropriate to set the ground floor level of a new building above an appropriate flood level. Consideration must then be given as to how the space beneath the building is treated, as well as how safe access for all is provided into the building.
- The raised area must allow water flow beneath the building. Solid screening of the raised area must therefore be avoided as it would impede water flow and can make the building appear oddly-proportioned, increasing the impression of height.
- The following methods are options to reduce the visual impact of the raised area:
 - Where the building is raised by around 1m in height, 'hit and miss' type cladding can be employed to screen the lower area whilst allowing water ingress;
 - A verandah / balcony running horizontally at internal ground floor level, over-hanging the raised area can help to visually separate the building from the space beneath it;
 - Landscaping can be employed to screen the lower area and incorporate safe and attractive access routes;
 - In some instances (particularly where the building is raised on taller stilts) it may be appropriate to leave the area beneath the building unscreened. This space must be managed to avoid it being used for storage etc, which would impede water ingress and look visually cluttered.

BA 25 Drainage

BA25-1 General

- Permeable materials for hard and soft landscaping must be used.
- Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS) encourages a naturalised and more flood resilient drainage provision. Where appropriate new development of all scales must employ SuDS components to provide a drainage management system which comprehensively addresses water quantity, water quality, visual amenity and biodiversity issues. SuDS features such as swales, filter strips, filter drains, tree pits, raingardens and green roofs can be used. The inclusion of SuDS in front gardens to manage roof-water runoff is preferable to downpipes connected directly to a sewer. More guidance can be found [here](#).
- It is encouraged that rainwater should be captured in water butts or below ground water tanks and should contribute to private water use, such as watering plants, laundry or toilet flushing. Grey water recycling should also be considered to reduce water consumption.
- Nutrient neutrality is a key consideration for development in some areas and will be dealt with through the planning application process. More information can be found [here](#).
- [Policies in the Local Plan for the Broads](#) must be complied with where appropriate.

BA26 Utilities and Services

BA26-1 General

- Early in the design process, consideration must be given to existing infrastructure and utility connections to ensure that this is taken into account when developing site layouts, building and landscape design.

At an early stage in the building design process, consideration must be given to ventilation, drainage and other services to ensure that items such as soil vent pipes and extract ventilation are unobtrusively located on buildings. Service boxes and utilities connections must not be on the front elevation and must be concealed from view.

- A comprehensive and co-ordinated approach to development must be taken, considering and respecting existing site constraints, including utilities situated within sites.
- Bin stores must be appropriate to the size and use of the property and encourage (by ease of access and use) the recycling and sorting of waste.

- Bin stores must be reasonably located as to minimise the distance and obstruction to waste collection points. Waste collection must be able to be made where it does not conflict with public spaces or pedestrians such as on footways.
- Bin stores must be located without detriment to the appearance of buildings and areas and where possible should be integrated with, and match, boundary treatments.

BA 27 Solar gain

BA27-1 General

- Solar gain is a particularly effective form of passive heating. Radiation from the sun is predominantly short-wave infrared radiation which passes through glazing and heats the internal fabric of the building. The long-wave infrared radiation that is re-radiated by the heated fabric of the building is not able to pass back out through the glazing, which results in accumulating heat internally. This is sometimes referred to as the 'greenhouse effect'.
- Solar gain can therefore be beneficial in cooler climates and in winter. However, over-heating can then be a problem in summer months and at particular times of the day. A [recent study](#)¹ found that one third of UK homes are at risk of dangerous over-heating as temperatures rise due to climate change. Part O of the Building Regulations was recently updated and introduces a maximum amount of glazing allowed in a single room to help address the issue.
- Buildings must (where possible) be designed in such a way that passive heating can be obtained through solar gain whilst mitigation measures must be included to ensure that over-heating does not occur. These can include:
 - Using the siting and layout of the dwelling to take advantage of solar gain by orientating the main glazed elevation within 30 degrees of south. It is recognised that where there is a well-established orientation for buildings in an area, this may not be possible to achieve;
 - Siting, layout and orientation can also enable more natural daylight in the dwelling and reduce the amount of lighting required;
 - Consider the size of windows and other openings, whether sill levels can be raised, whether they can be positioned to provide through-ventilation, their solar exposure and if additional shading measures such as brise-soleil, shutters, verandahs, canopies or setting back windows within a recess

¹ *Its Getting Hot in Here*, Jonathan Marshall, August 2023 (The Resolution Foundation)

would be appropriate (this can also help to reduce light pollution -see code BA23).

BA 28 Sustainability

BA28-1 General

- New development must be resilient to a changing climate. Proposals must reasonably exhaust all options to create a sustainable development and where not achievable, clearly demonstrate the approaches taken to justify why sustainable options are not possible. The Technology Strategy Board's '[Design for Future Climate](#)' document, sets out the nine key areas to help achieve this:
 - Keeping cool – building design
 - Keeping cool – external spaces
 - Keeping warm
 - Structural stability - below ground
 - Structural stability – above ground
 - Weatherproofing, detailing and materials
 - Water conservation
 - Drainage
 - Flooding
- New development must:
 - Ensure existing native planting, trees and other natural features are retained in development;
 - retain and enhance green and blue infrastructure, including habitat links and corridors. Proposals must consider whether it is appropriate or desirable to provide public access;
 - incorporate suitable features to enhance biodiversity (see section BA21 Biodiversity)
 - incorporate energy efficiency measures appropriate to the building;
 - incorporate renewable energy measures that are sensitive to the local area and character, this may include solar photo voltaic panels and heat pumps;

- use locally or sustainably sourced materials;
- design the building to enable flexibility for the use of spaces and access in and around the building as the requirements of occupants may change;
- ensure safe, attractive and well-connected cycle and pedestrian access;
- comply with code BA 31 – Water Efficiency;
- Incorporate sustainable drainage principles;
- Further advice can be found in the Broads Authority Sustainability Guide.

BA 29 Energy efficiency

BA29-1 General

- Policies in the Local Plan for the Broads must be complied with in relation to new development and changes to existing buildings.

BA 30 Solar Panels

BA30-1 General

- In many instances, the installation of solar panels is permitted development, subject to certain conditions (although installations affecting designated heritage assets are likely to require planning permission, scheduled monument consent or listed building consent).. However, where photovoltaic (solar) panels are proposed, consideration must still be given to mitigating their visual harm. Where possible, panels must be placed on the least publicly visible roof slope. This is particularly the case where the roofscape is of particular importance to the character of a place (within conservation areas this may be identified as a feature of significance in the Conservation Area Appraisal document).
- Consideration must be given to:
 - positioning solar panels as a freestanding solar-array in a secluded location or locating panels on the roof of an outbuilding or in a roof valley;
 - ensuring that the panels are non-reflective;
 - ensuring that shiny, silver-coloured stainless steel frames and fixings are not used, instead using matt-black finishes and frames which are more visually recessive;

- integrating solar panels into the roof covering, rather than being positioned on top of the existing roof;
- the existing or proposed roof covering and how conspicuous the solar panels will be on it (e.g. panels are more visually intrusive on red pantiles than on slate or black pantiles);
- using another form of photovoltaic system, for example 'solar slates' and others as solar technology develops;
- where installations would affect heritage assets or their settings, please refer to Historic England's [Advice Note 18: Adapting Historic Buildings for Energy and Carbon Efficiency](#)

BA 31 Water Efficiency

BA31-1 General

- The Broads are situated within one of the driest parts of the country. As such all new development must demonstrate that they are water efficient. This could include the use of water efficient fittings and systems and grey water and / or rainwater harvesting and re-use for plant watering, laundry and toilets (also see BA25-1 Drainage).Local Plan for the Broads policy must be complied with.

BA 32 Air Quality

BA32-1 General

Consideration must be given to internal and external air quality, which could be addressed through:

- The adoption of low-carbon heating methods
- The proper ongoing maintenance and use of woodburners where they are proposed, as they are major contributors of a pollutant called fine particulate matter, which can be harmful to health
- Ensuring there is sufficient ventilation in accordance with Part F of the Building Regulations.

Movement

BA33 Street Design

BA33-1 General

- All buildings must be accessible by foot and pedestrian access and safety must be improved in an appropriate way where possible. This may include prioritising more vulnerable road users (pedestrians, cyclists and equestrians) and encouraging the

planting of hedges and trees to enhance the existing character of streets thereby encouraging safer and slower driving by vehicles.

- Where the character of the place allows (for example within towns), separate and segregated pedestrian and / or cycle routes must be provided.
- New development must:
 - Connect with the wider street network and existing access points to improve permeability (where appropriate);
 - Understand and incorporate natural movement and desire lines;
 - Deliver convenient walking and cycling access that minimises walking and cycling distances so that people can easily reach their destinations;
 - Connect with and enhance access to any existing footpaths or cycle routes;
 - Offer direct and safe connections to existing streets, amenities and destinations;
 - Ensure passive surveillance by surrounding properties;
 - Consider whether new streets can be used to frame views;
 - Be in accordance with the Department for Transport's [Local Transport Note 1/20](#)
- [Suffolk Design: Streets Guide \(Suffolk County Council\)](#) and [Manual for Streets](#) and [Manual for Streets 2](#) provide examples of best practice for highway design and must be consulted to inform development. Where works to highways or streets are proposed in historic areas (not just conservation areas), reference should be made to Historic England's [Streets for All](#) guidance.

BA34 Cycling

BA34-1 General

- Secure and convenient cycle storage must be provided for all development where people live, work or visit and must be:
 - Covered and protected from the rain;
 - Secure and lockable, with natural and passive surveillance;

- Convenient, either by being near to the street or in a place able to be ridden to (such as down a private drive). Needing to carry a bike through buildings must be avoided;
- Positioned in an accessible location that does not cause harm to the appearance of the building or wider location;
- Designed to be appropriate to the context;
- Separate to bin stores.

BA35 Vehicle Parking

BA35-1 General

- Where residential parking can be provided on site, it must be positioned perpendicular to the front (street-side) of the dwelling or in another position that allows natural surveillance from active rooms (e.g. not bathrooms or bedrooms). However, parking will not be acceptable on the river frontage of a building.
- Where communal parking areas are necessary, bays must be allocated to individual properties, sited in small groups, close and adjacent to homes and be within view of active rooms.
- Rear parking courts are generally discouraged as they frequently create an unattractive space that is vulnerable to crime and anti-social behaviour. In some rural or waterside areas where on-site parking is not available, this may however be necessary. In these instances, parking areas must be designed to ensure they visually relate to their context and benefit from natural surveillance.
- All parking areas must be positioned and designed in such a way to mitigate its visual impact, for example, through the use of appropriate surfacing and planting.
- District and County ([Norfolk](#) and [Suffolk](#)) parking standards, including those for storing and parking cycles and those set out in Neighbourhood Plans, must be complied with.

BA36 Electric Charging points

BA36-1 General

- All new homes must now have an electric vehicle charging point and it is strongly encouraged that they also be provided for other development, as required by Building Regulations. The design and location should be carefully considered in relation to design, amenity, potential trip hazards and battery fire risk and any

lighting associated with charging points needs to be thoroughly justified, with Local Plan for the Broads policy on dark skies being of relevance.

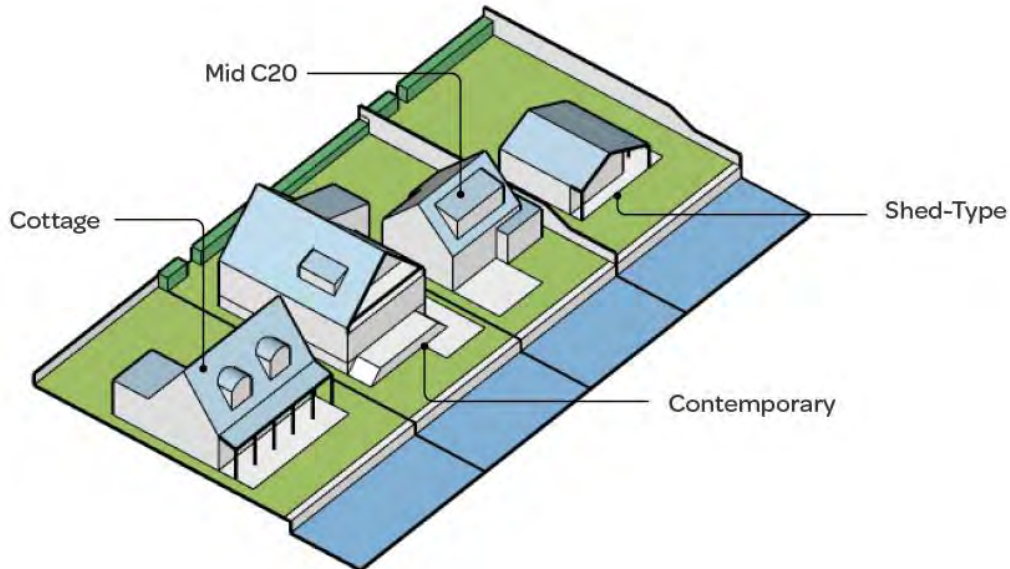
BA37 Access for All

BA37-1 General

- Accessibility to all new development must be considered. Dwellings must meet Building regulation standard M4(2) and / or M4(3) and Local Plan for the Broads policy. If it not considered appropriate then justification must be provided.
- In public spaces, the principles set out in the Department for Transport [Inclusive Mobility](#) guidance must be adhered to where appropriate.
- Development must consider the needs of an ageing population and individuals with disabilities. Features to address these needs might include accessible entrances, step-free routes and inclusive wayfinding to ensure useability for all.



6. The Design Codes: Codes relating to Chalets



Built Form

BA 2 Roof Form

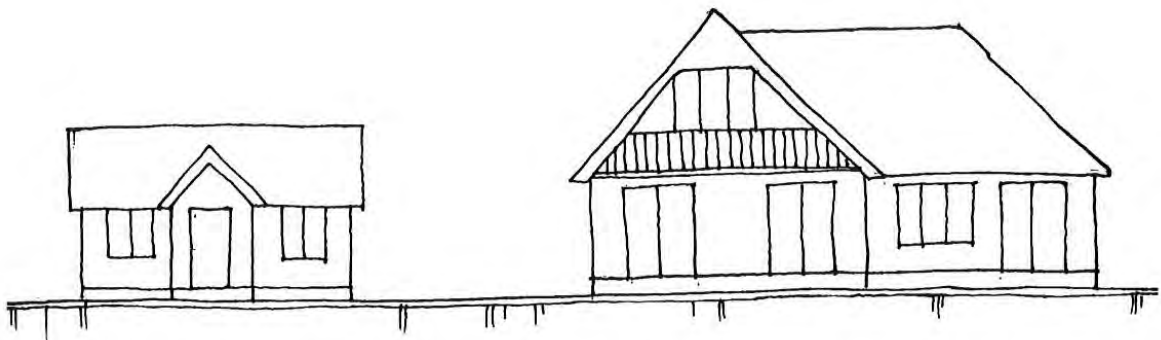
BA2-2 Chalets

- The roof form must reflect the predominant and historic roof form found in the vicinity.
- In most cases, the roof must be the most dominant feature and proportionally should be larger than walls. This improves the proportions of the building and roofs merge more easily into the landscape. An exception to this is shed-type chalets where a shallower pitch may be appropriate.
- Chalet roofs must overhang the eaves and gables and have well-proportioned gable ends.
- Variety of roof orientation and pitch adds richness to some chalet areas. In other areas, there is great consistency in roof form which must be adhered to.
- Where proposals include dormer windows, the form (e.g pitched, catslide, eyebrow or flat) must reflect those found in the vicinity. Dormers must not be used on shed-type chalets.



Above: Pitched roofs of varying pitches but consistency of orientation and no dormers on these 'shed-type' chalets at Brundall.

- Rooflights must be carefully positioned and be conservation-style and flush-fitting. They must comply with Local Plan for the Broads policy in relation to light pollution. They must be placed on the least visible roof slope and be as few in number as possible to avoid visual clutter. Rooflights will rarely be appropriate on thatched roofs.



Above: New chalets must respect the scale of adjoining properties, unlike in this example.

BA 3 Height and Storeys

BA3-2 Chalets

- Chalets must generally be arranged between 1 - 1.5 storeys depending on the predominant scale of chalets in the vicinity. Variety in composition is characteristic and therefore slight stepping up and down in height is advantageous.

BA 4 Width and Bays

BA4-2 Chalets

- Development on chalet sites should not take up the whole width of the plot. There must be sufficient gaps between buildings to ensure that the built form does not predominate and that views between the land and water are gained.

BA 5 Building Line

BA5-2 Chalets

- In most instances there is an established building line that must be adhered to, although slight staggering may be acceptable. New chalets must be set back from the water's edge to provide a garden area, the building line must be broken with gaps to ensure sufficient amenity space and allow views between the water and land.

BA 6 Setback

BA6-2 Chalets

- Generally, a chalet must be set back from the water to create a meaningful amenity space. Buildings must be no closer than 2m from the water's edge and ideally more, dependent on context. Buildings must have over 2m set back from the landside access.

BA 7 Extensions

BA7-2 Chalets

- Any extension must be clearly subservient to the main building and must not erode the original form, proportion and configuration of the building. The riverside frontage is the principal elevation and extensions to this elevation must therefore be carefully designed.
- If the plot is of a limited size, with a high building coverage, then extensions are not appropriate.

- Extensions of a contemporary design must share common features with the host building.

BA 8 Outbuildings

BA8-2 Chalets

- Outbuildings are generally not appropriate but small stores may occasionally be acceptable. Any such structures must make reference to the main building in terms of their design.
- Consideration must be given to the scale and positioning of outbuildings to ensure that open spaces around chalet buildings are retained, to allow views and glimpses between the river and the land behind the chalets.
- Consideration must be given to mitigating the visual effect of secondary visual features such as oil tanks, gas bottles and parking areas, through considerate positioning and appropriate landscaping.

BA 11 Replacement Building

BA11-2 Chalets

- It is especially important to recognise the cultural heritage value of the chalets and the contribution they make to the wider Broads landscape. Loss of historic chalet buildings will not always be acceptable and must be justified. Consideration must be given as to how any replacement building would enhance landscape and cultural value, through its architectural design (including form, shape, mass, scale, size and materials).
- Replacement chalet buildings must be sized and positioned to ensure that gaps between built form on chalet plots are retained to allow views through the sites from the road to the water and vice versa.

Identity

BA 15 Frontages and Entrances

BA15-2 Chalets

- Chalets must treat their waterside frontage as their primary frontage. The landside frontage must be more modest and include the front door and access to the building. This must benefit from natural surveillance.

BA 16 Fenestration and glazing

BA16-2 Chalets

- Fenestration must be arranged in accordance with the predominant characteristics of the chalet-type, either symmetrical or asymmetrical.
- The size of windows must relate to the chalet type: cottage and shed-type chalets must generally comprise smaller windows. Contemporary chalets may have a mix of window sizes.
- Individual windows must generally be narrow rather than wide in proportion. If windows are to have a horizontal shape, they should be divided into narrow, vertical panes.

BA 17 Materials

BA17-2 Chalets

- In waterside locations, timber-frame is the most appropriate form of construction for small-scale buildings with steel structural frames or a piled steel framework to build off for larger buildings.
- Materials must comprise of timber boarding or shingles, render or metal cladding, with water reed thatch, pantiles, timber shingles or metal sheet roofing. Timber joinery must be used. Where justified, aluminium can occasionally be used as an alternative.

BA 18 Detailing

BA18-2 Chalets

- There is a tradition of whimsical detailing on some chalet buildings and this is encouraged. It provides an opportunity for modest artistic and stylistic detailing to add 'personality' to a property. This can reflect surrounding or prominent decorative traditions. Examples include, decorative timber bargeboards or verandahs, or metalwork such as weather-vanes.
- A verandah, structural canopy or recessed (covered) balcony on the waterside of the building must be provided. This provides additional (all weather) amenity space and is a traditional feature of chalet buildings.

BA 19 Colour

BA19-2 Chalets

- In most instances, timber cladding must be treated with black or neutral coloured stains to allow the natural timber grain to show.
- Chalet buildings must make use of contrasting colours, with window and door frames, bargeboards and other joinery being painted or stained in a contrasting colour to walls.

Nature

BA 20 Boundaries

BA20-2 Chalets

- Hedges are encouraged on the landside. Other potential boundary treatments include cleft chestnut fencing and hurdles made from close-woven osiers, hazel wattle or reeds.
- On the river-facing side of the chalet, side boundary treatments must not exceed 1m in height and 700mm adjacent to the river.
- Boundary treatments must not be used along the water's edge.

BA 22 Gardens and landscaping

BA22-2 Chalets

- Gardens can comprise of a modest, functional, street-side garden with emphasis on the waterside garden to provide amenity space. Chalets must maintain a clear open margin to the river frontage with the retention of lawns and low-level planting so as not to compromise openness. Planting should typically be natural and avoid regular spacing and formal borders (although this will be dependent on context).
- Areas of decking may not always be acceptable and must be limited in their extent. Decking must not form more than one third of amenity space or 30sqm, whichever is the smaller.
- Glazed balustrades to verandas, decking (or in other areas) are not acceptable due to their shiny and reflective qualities which are at odds with the natural and vernacular materials predominantly used in the buildings and their detrimental impact on the wider landscape setting.

Resources

BA 27 Solar gain

BA27-2 Chalets

- Where there is a pre-determined layout for buildings, varying orientation may not be possible.
- Mitigation to over-heating may include deep over-hanging eaves, shutters, recessed balconies or glazing and the arrangement of doors and window to provide through-draughts. There may be opportunities to include brise-soleil into contemporary chalet types.

Movement

BA35 Vehicle Parking

BA35-2 Chalets

- Vehicular access and parking must be limited to the street-side, (rather than river-side) of the site and must not be detrimental to the visual amenity of the site or wider area.

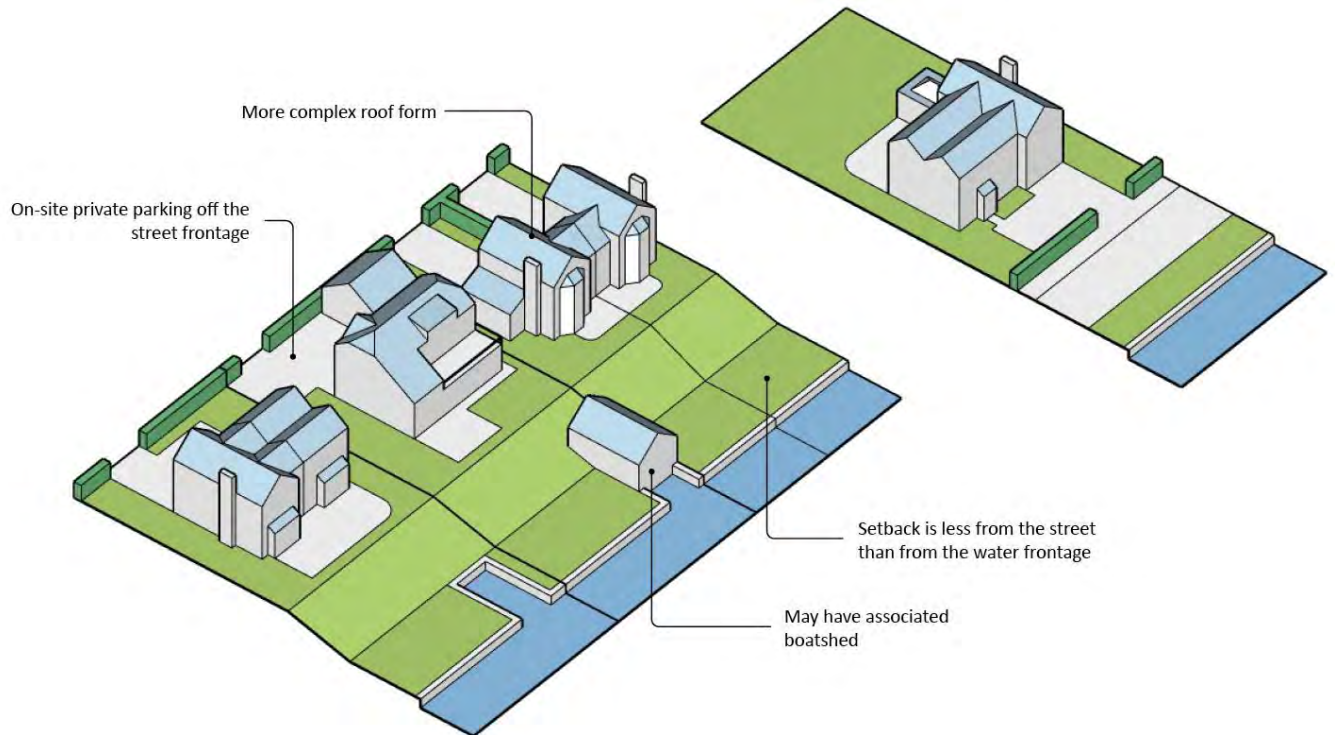
BA37 Access for All

BA37-2 Chalets

- Where new development is raised above ground level, consideration must be given as to how access for all is provided to the property. This should be designed in such a way that it complements the building and wider area and can be used to screen the void beneath the building.



7. The Design Codes: Codes relating to Waterside Homes



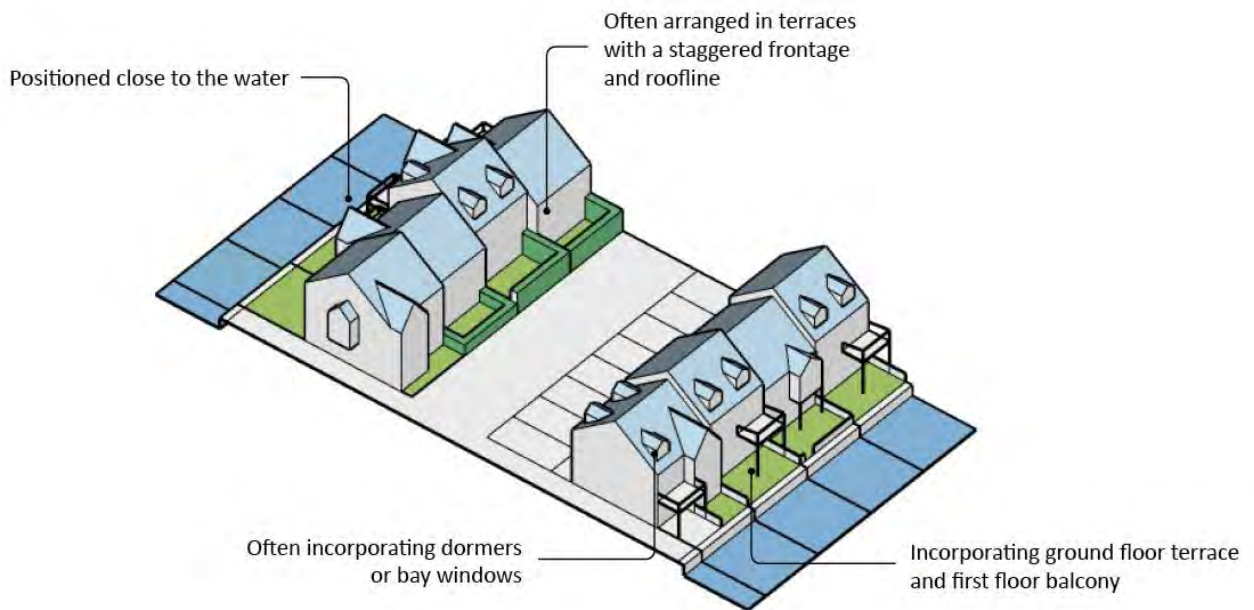
Built Form

BA 2 Roof Form

BA2-3 Waterside Homes

- Waterside Homes must comprise more complex roof composition, with a mix of cross gable, hipped or dominant and subservient elements, such as dormers. Flat roofs may also be considered appropriate on more contemporary designs and green roofs are encouraged to enhance biodiversity and reduce rainwater run-off.
- Chimneys must be used to break up the roofline.
- Where proposals include dormer windows, the form (e.g pitched, catslide, eyebrow or flat) must reflect those found in the vicinity and be in keeping with the overall design of the building.
- Rooflights must be carefully positioned and be conservation-style and flush-fitting. They must comply with Local Plan for the Broads policy in relation to light pollution. They must be placed on the least visible roof slope and be as few in number as

possible to avoid visual clutter. Rooflights will rarely be appropriate on thatched roofs.



Above: Waterside Homes (Marina)



Above: Flat roofs can on occasions be considered appropriate for contemporary waterside homes

BA 4 Width and Bays

BA4-3 Waterside Homes

- For Detached building footprints, the number of bays can vary. Buildings must be wider across the plot than they are deep to take advantage of river views. Front doors can either be on the 'street-side' elevation or to the side.
- Marina-type Waterside Homes, must have a narrower footprint and houses can be arranged in terraces, running along the water's edge.

BA 6 Setback

BA6-3 Waterside Homes

- Buildings must be set back from the street by greater than 4m, which can allow for a street-side garden and parking. Where the property is in closer proximity to the street it must be designed to address it.

Identity

BA 15 Frontages and Entrances

BA15-3 Waterside Homes

- Must demonstrate both a positive street and water frontage.

BA 16 Fenestration and glazing

BA16-3 Waterside Homes

- 'Feature'-type glazing may be acceptable. Consideration must be given to recessing this and reducing its size, in order to minimise the reflective nature and glare from the glass in the wider landscape, provide more visual interest to elevations and reduce over-heating.
- Fenestration in Marina-type Waterside homes must be consistent with neighbouring properties, as these buildings are often designed as a terrace block.

BA 17 Materials

BA17-3 Waterside Homes

- Materials should generally comprise of red brick, render or timber cladding with slate or pantile roofing. Where flat roofs are considered appropriate on contemporary designs, a green-roof must be considered.

- Where new render is proposed on an existing Waterside Home of pre-1919 construction, consideration must be given to how the building works and whether the render will cause damp and other long term damage to the building.

BA 18 Detailing

BA18-3 Waterside Homes

- Brick bond must match that of the host building or predominant bond in the area.
- Elevations tend to express a strong architectural order, with rich detailing, including decorative brickwork as well as window dressing.
- It is encouraged that additional (all weather) amenity be created with the use of porches, verandas, canopies and recessed (covered) balconies on the waterside. The size of these should be appropriate for the dwelling size.

Nature

BA 20 Boundaries

BA20-3 Waterside Homes

- Where fences or railings are used, they must incorporate a planted strip of at least 700mm depth.
- On the river-facing side of marina-type Waterside Homes' gardens, boundary treatments to the side boundaries may have a maximum height of 1.8m for a length of 1.5m from the river-facing elevation of the property, stepping down to a maximum of 700mm.
- Boundary treatments must not be used along the water's edge.

Resources

BA 27 Solar gain

BA27-3 Waterside Homes

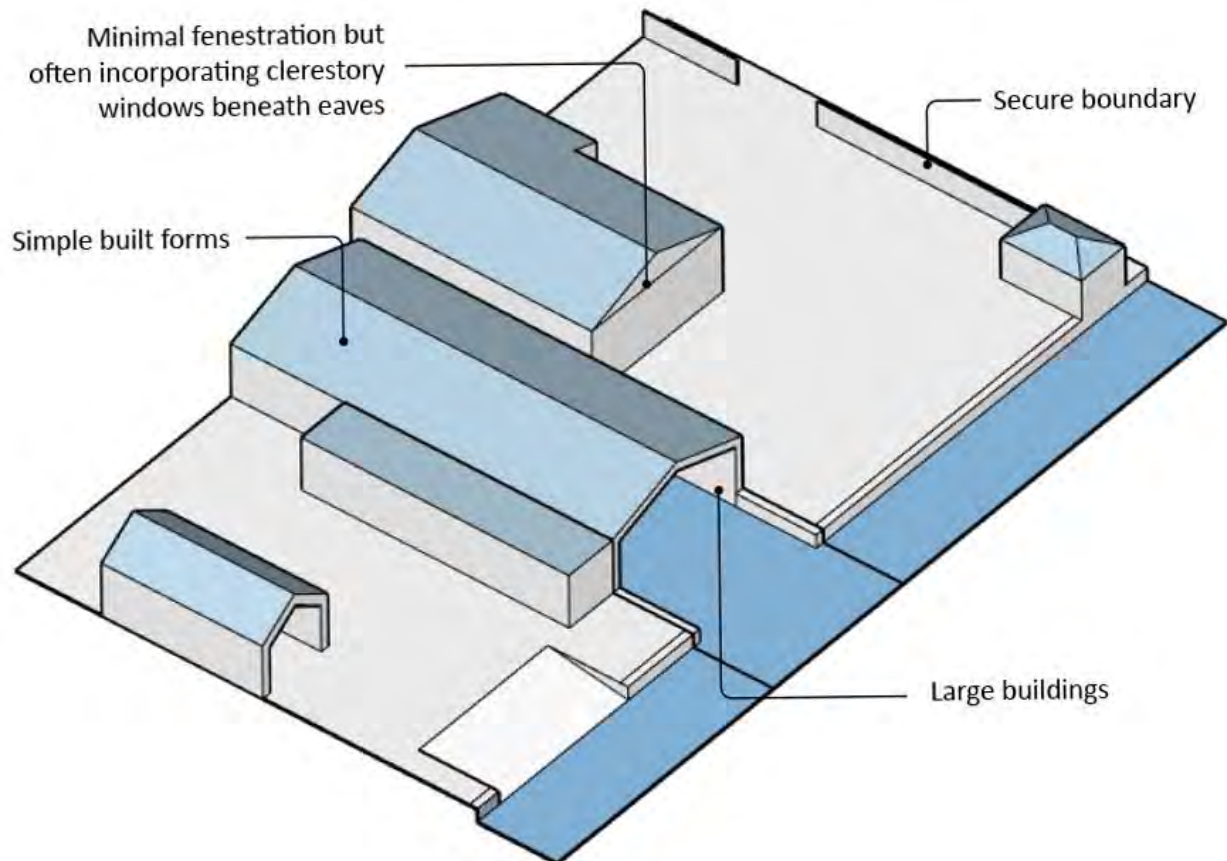
- Mitigation to over-heating may include deep over-hanging eaves, shutters, recessed balconies or glazing and the arrangement of doors and window to provide through-draughts. There may be opportunities to include brise-soleil into contemporary waterside buildings.

BA27-3 Waterside Homes (marina)

- Where there is a pre-determined layout for buildings, varying orientation may not be possible.



8. The Design Codes: Codes relating to Boatyards

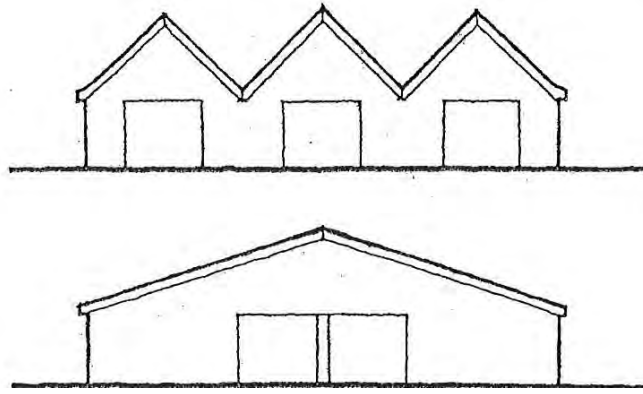


Built Form

BA 2 Roof Form

BA2-4 Boatyards

- Where possible, the size of a building with a large footprint must be reduced through a series of linked gables, rather than a single wide-span roof.
- In order to moderate the presence of larger buildings, low pitch roofs must be used with a mix of gable and hipped types. In most instances, roof forms should run perpendicular to the river with the gabled end fronting the water.



Above: A series of linked gables (top) can reduce the bulk of a boatshed with a large footprint, rather than using a wide-span roof (bottom).

- Where roof-lighting is required, translucent light panels must be used on sheet metal roofing to light the interior whilst retaining the profile of the roofing material. On other roof materials, other rooflight types can be appropriate.

BA 3 Height and Storeys

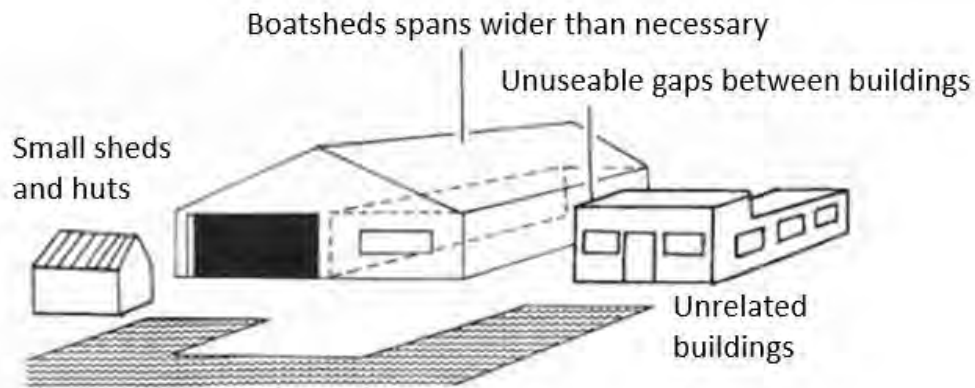
BA3-4 Boatyards

- Height must be equivalent to a maximum of 2-3 domestic floor levels. A low pitch roof and low ridgeline alleviates the possible visual dominance of height.
- Any increase in height must be fully justified.

BA 7 Extensions

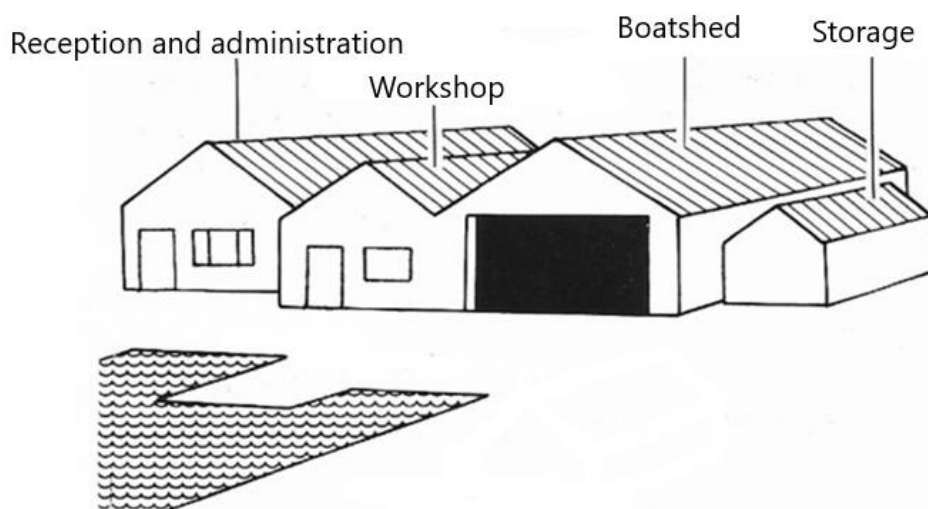
BA7-4 Boatyards

- A large extension to a building may be considered appropriate where it does not unreasonably impact on the character and appearance of the wider area and supports the business use on site.
- Extensions must be smaller than the host building, but can be substantial where appropriate. Access and visual prominence in the wider context must be considered.
- Where possible, extensions must continue the traditional pattern of linked gables. As well as being characteristic of traditional boatsheds, this form of development avoids gaps and left-over space between buildings and can help to enclose an open space.



Above: An unsatisfactory arrangement of new buildings and extensions in a boatyard

Below: A more satisfactory arrangement of buildings adopting a more traditional form



BA 8 Outbuildings

BA8-4 Boatyards

- Pump-out stations, bunkering and other facilities which need to be on the waterfront should be co-ordinated and grouped together.
- Natural colours inspired from the surrounding landscape such as light greys, blues and greens must be used to help soften the impact of larger outbuildings, although in some instances black or white can also be acceptable depending on the design of the building and its context.

Identity

BA 15 Frontages and Entrances

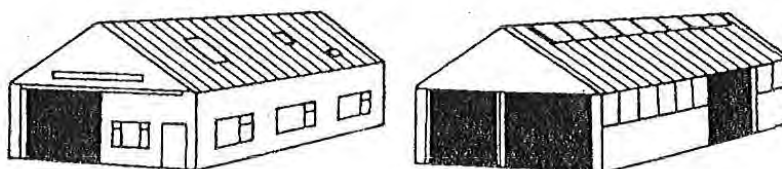
BA15-4 Boatyards

- Frontages may be limited with emphasis on operational and access needs for the boating industry. Buildings that have frequent activity, such as offices, must have obvious entrances and positively contribute to the frontages of public areas, such as streets or access points onto the site.

BA 16 Fenestration and glazing

BA16-4 Boatyards

- Strips of glazing divided into vertical panes is preferred to an arbitrary arrangement of unrelated window openings.
- On larger boatsheds, clerestory glazing (long bands of windows at eaves-level, separating the walls from the roof) is encouraged alongside other types of opening.
- Doors on gable ends should align with the eaves line and fenestration on the gable should be arranged symmetrically.
- Where conversion of boatyard buildings is proposed, care must be taken to avoid domestication or loss of the utilitarian character of the building.

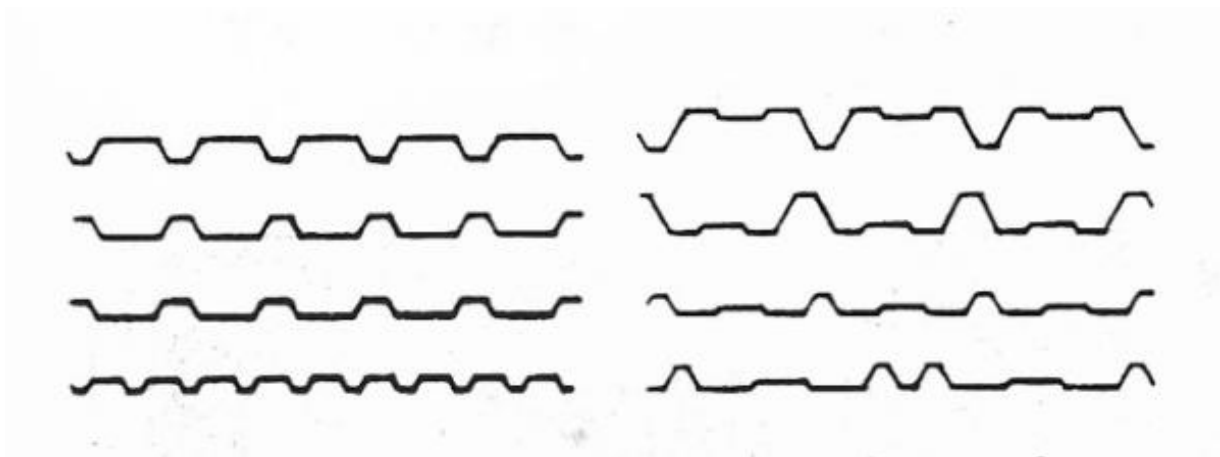


Above: Boatyard buildings often use strips of glazing divided into vertical panes (right). This is more successful than arbitrarily arranged windows of varying design (left).

BA 17 Materials

BA17-4 Boatyards

- The material palette within a boatyard must be limited and is typically metal or timber cladding with sheet metal roofing. Timber can give a more traditional appearance and help a large building relate to its context.



Above left: regular metal cladding profiles Above right: irregular metal cladding profiles

BA 18 Detailing

BA18-4 Boatyards

- Boatyards must typically have simple detailing and reflect structure and functionality.
- Steel or aluminium cladding must be selected according to the scale of the building.
- Deep profiles give texture to larger industrial units, while shallow profiles give texture and character to smaller buildings, without looking too heavy. Curved profiles are encouraged and regular profiles are more suitable than those with an irregular form.
- The junction of roof to wall must be emphasised by oversailing the roof and by using bold sections for rainwater gutters, thereby providing a strong shadow line. Downpipes must run internally as they can otherwise appear too prominent on the large blank walls.
- Signage boards must relate to the building configuration and other design elements. Lettering applied directly to the building surface, without a backing panel, can be more pleasing in appearance. Illumination must not be used on signage.

BA 19 Colour

BA19-4 Boatyards

- It is encouraged to use black, white, blue, green or grey tones depending on the local context and building design.

Nature

BA 20 Boundaries

BA20-4 Boatyards

- Working boatyards must be reasonably secure but the design of boundaries should avoid creating an unwelcoming feel, particularly next to streets, rivers and other public areas. Where boundaries must be visually open for functional reasons and palisade fencing is used, it must incorporate a planted strip of at least 700mm.
- Measures must be taken to soften the visual impact through appropriate landscaping where possible and the addition of planting can also increase biodiversity and reduce the sterility of some boatyards.

BA 22 Gardens and landscaping

BA22--3 Boatyards

- Open storage of a permanent nature must be sited away from the waterfront and screened from view.
- Ornamental and decorative planting must be avoided and more natural planting and landscaping adopted.

Resources

BA26 Utilities and Services

BA26-2 Boatyards

- It is recognised that working boatyards provide services that require various apparatus which can give a visually cluttered appearance. Where possible opportunities must be taken to reduce this visual clutter or mitigate its visual impact. This may be through the removal of obsolete machinery for example.

Movement

BA35 Vehicle Parking

BA35-4 Boatyards

- Parking must be provided on site. Parking, meeting minimum requirements, must be permanent and not frequently repurposed due to other activity or operations. It should be positioned to benefit from natural surveillance but away from the waterside where possible.
- Large areas of impermeable hardstanding, devoid of any soft landscaping, must be avoided to reduce the visual impact of parking and to prevent environmental issues caused by excess rainwater run-off and reflected heat.

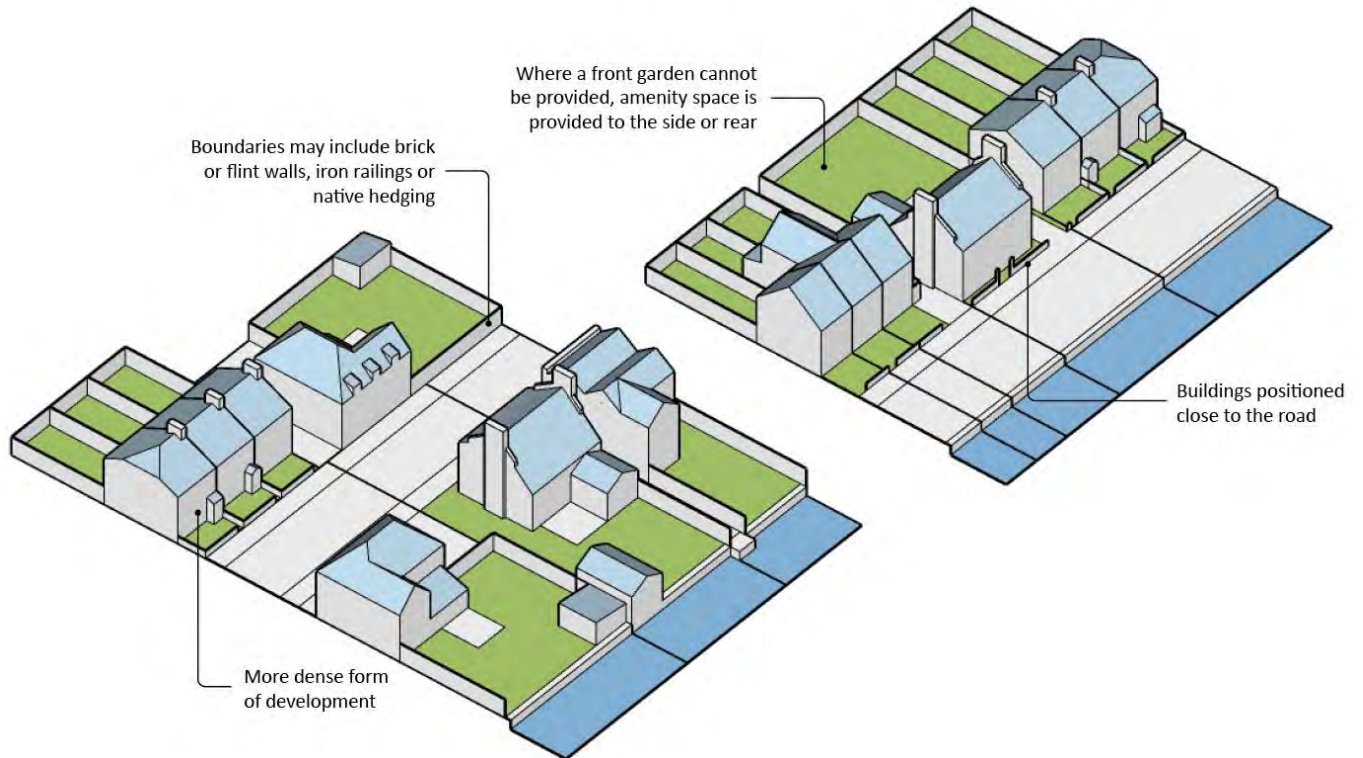
BA37 Access for All

BA37-4 Boatyards

- Consideration must be given to safe access for all around the site and for all boat users.



9. The Design Codes: Codes relating to Historic Clusters



Built Form

BA 2 Roof Form

BA2-5 Historic Clusters

- Where proposals include dormer windows, the form (e.g pitched, catslide, eyebrow or flat) must reflect those found in the vicinity and be in keeping with the overall design of the building.
- Rooflights must be carefully positioned and must generally be conservation-style and flush-fitting. They must comply with Local Plan for the Broads policy in relation to light pollution. They must be placed on the least visible roof slope and be as few in number as possible to avoid visual clutter. Rooflights will rarely be appropriate on thatched roofs.

BA 3 Height and Storeys

BA3-5 Historic Clusters

- Buildings must be limited in height to 2 storeys. More floors or accommodation within roofspace, may be considered acceptable dependent on context.

BA 6 Setback

BA6-5 Historic Clusters

- Buildings must be located close to the road or footway depending on context. A narrow landscaped strip or a recessed front door of at least 600mm but no more than 1000mm must be provided to allow users to step off the highway.



Above: a new home in Belaugh makes good use of traditional materials including timber joinery, red brick, flintwork and red clay pantiles. The massing of the building is successfully reduced by the projecting gables and varied roof forms.

Identity

BA 17 Materials

BA17-5 Historic Clusters

- Materials should generally comprise of red or painted (and in some instances in the southern Broads cream-coloured gault) brick, flint or coloured render, with water reed thatch, slate or pantile roofing. Joinery must be in timber.
- Where new render is proposed on an existing building of pre-1919 construction, consideration must be given to how the building works and whether the render will cause damp and other long-term damage to the building. Advice can be found on the [Historic England website](#).

BA 18 Detailing

BA18-5 Historic Clusters

- Brick bond must match that of the host building or predominant bond in the area.
- Generally, buildings are relatively simple in their detailing. Decorative brickwork is encouraged, such as around windows, doors, eaves and corners. In some instances, further detail is provided by porches and door-hoods or fenestration.
- A brick or tarred / rendered plinth is a traditional detail in many settlements. Consideration must be given as to whether it would be an appropriate detail to adopt.

BA 19 Colour

BA19-5 Historic Clusters

- Brighter colours (for example, coloured render) can be used to create more variety.



Above: Bridge Street, Bungay demonstrates how in more built-up areas the use of coloured render and painted brickwork and joinery can create visual interest. Many of the buildings also have a rendered plinth. Buildings are positioned directly on the pavement with gardens and amenity space to the rear. There is a consistent building line with some variation in ridge and eaves height, creating an interesting skyline.

Nature

BA 20 Boundaries

BA20-5 Historic Clusters

- Boundary treatment must match the predominant materials used by neighbouring properties within the street scene. Alternatively, the materials on the street-front elevation of the host building may be used, for example brick walls for a brick elevation. Materials may include red brick, flint, timber, hurdles or metal railings depending on the context or alternatively native hedging. Close-boarded fencing is unlikely to be considered acceptable in publicly visible areas.
- Boundaries along the street frontage must be less than 1.0m in height, unless the prevailing context suggests otherwise.

BA 22 Gardens and landscaping

BA22-5 Historic Clusters

- Front gardens may not be appropriate where prevailing building line and setback is flush with the road or footway. Rear or side garden space must be provided as an alternative.

Resources

BA 27 Solar gain

BA27-5 Historic Clusters

- Where there is a pre-determined layout for buildings, varying orientation may not be possible.
- Mitigation to over-heating may include deep over-hanging eaves, shutters, recessed glazing and the arrangement of doors and window to provide through-draughts.

Movement

BA35 Vehicle Parking

BA35-5 Historic Clusters

- Parking must be provided on site where the site size, position and configuration allows. Where this is not achievable due to the density of existing development and the character of the area (for example where there is terraced housing) on-street parking may be necessary.

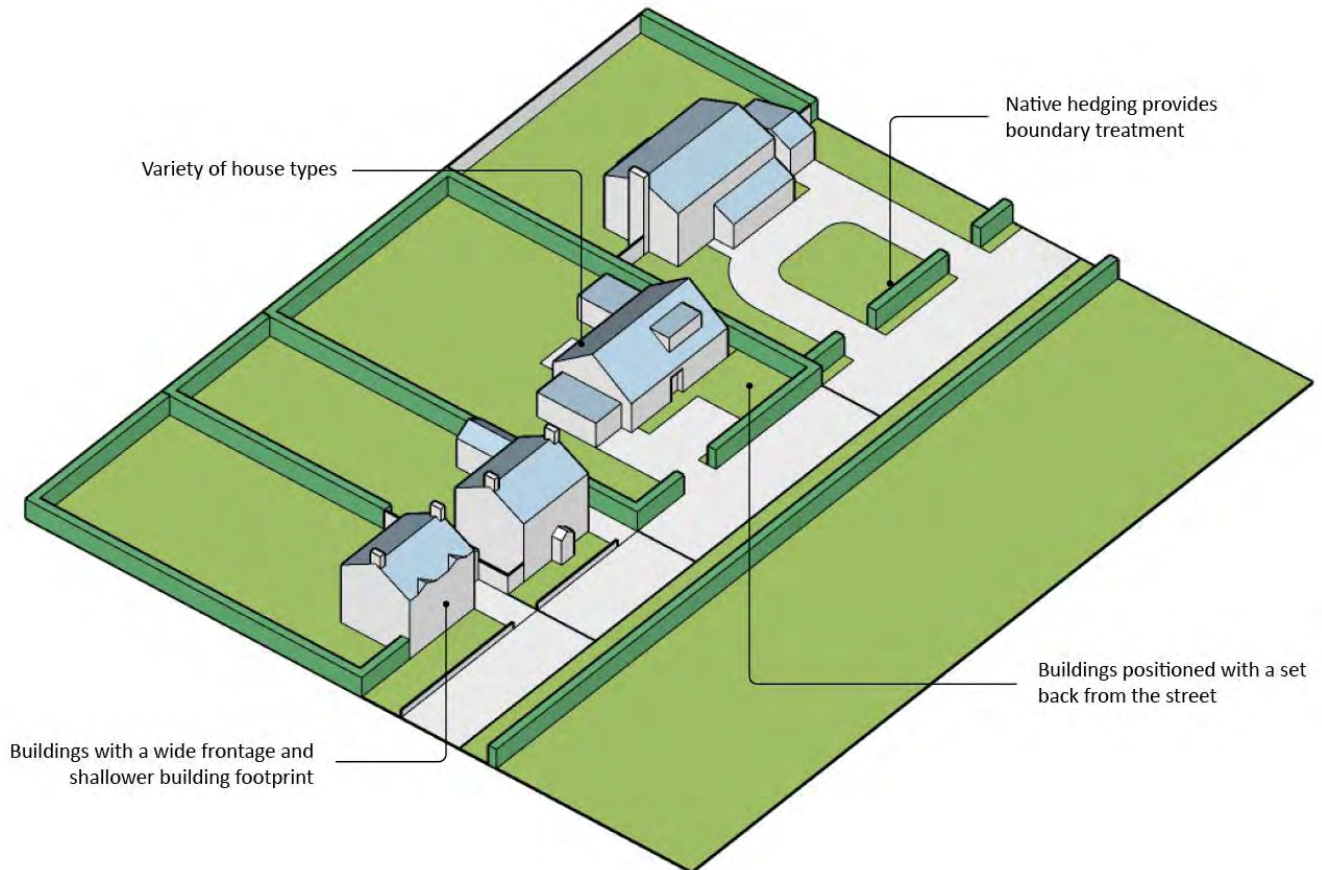
BA35 Electric Charging points

BA36-5 Historic Clusters

- Due to the potential lack of private parking, it may be hard to achieve all the general requirements (in BA36-1) for the installation of EV charging points.



10. The Design Codes: Codes relating to Rural Homes



Built Form

BA 2 Roof Form

BA2-6 Rural Homes

- Where proposals include dormer windows, the form (e.g pitched, catslide, eyebrow or flat) must reflect those found in the vicinity and be in keeping with the overall design of the building.
- Rooflights must be carefully positioned and be conservation-style and flush-fitting. They must comply with Local Plan for the Broads policy in relation to light pollution. They must be placed on the least visible roof slope and be as few in number as possible to avoid visual clutter. Rooflights will rarely be appropriate on thatched roofs.

BA 4 Width and Bays

BA4-6 Rural Homes

- Buildings must be wide-fronted, with a shallower building footprint and a centrally-positioned front door. However, where homes are terraced, it must have a narrower footprint and door to one side of the front elevation.

BA 6 Setback

BA6-6 Rural Homes

- Buildings must generally be set back from the street by at least 3m.

Identity

BA 17 Materials

BA17-6 Rural Homes

- Materials should generally comprise of red brick and / or render with water reed thatch, slate or pantile roofing.
- Where new render is proposed on a building of pre-1919 construction, consideration must be given as to how the building works and whether the render will cause damp and other long-term damage to the building. Advice can be found on the [Historic England website](#).

BA 18 Detailing

BA18-6 Rural Homes

- Brick bond must match that of the host building or predominant bond in the area.
- A brick or tarred / rendered plinth is a traditional detail on many rural buildings. Consideration must be given as to whether it would be an appropriate detail to adopt.

BA 19 Colour

BA19-6 Rural Homes

- In rural areas, bright or discordant colours can be damaging to the wider landscape. Therefore, when building within the landscape, the visual impact of a building must be reduced through the use of traditional materials or materials using the muted greens and browns of the landscape, together with the neutral colours of grey and

black. Where a building stands out against the sky in an open landscape, dark recessive colours must be used.

Nature

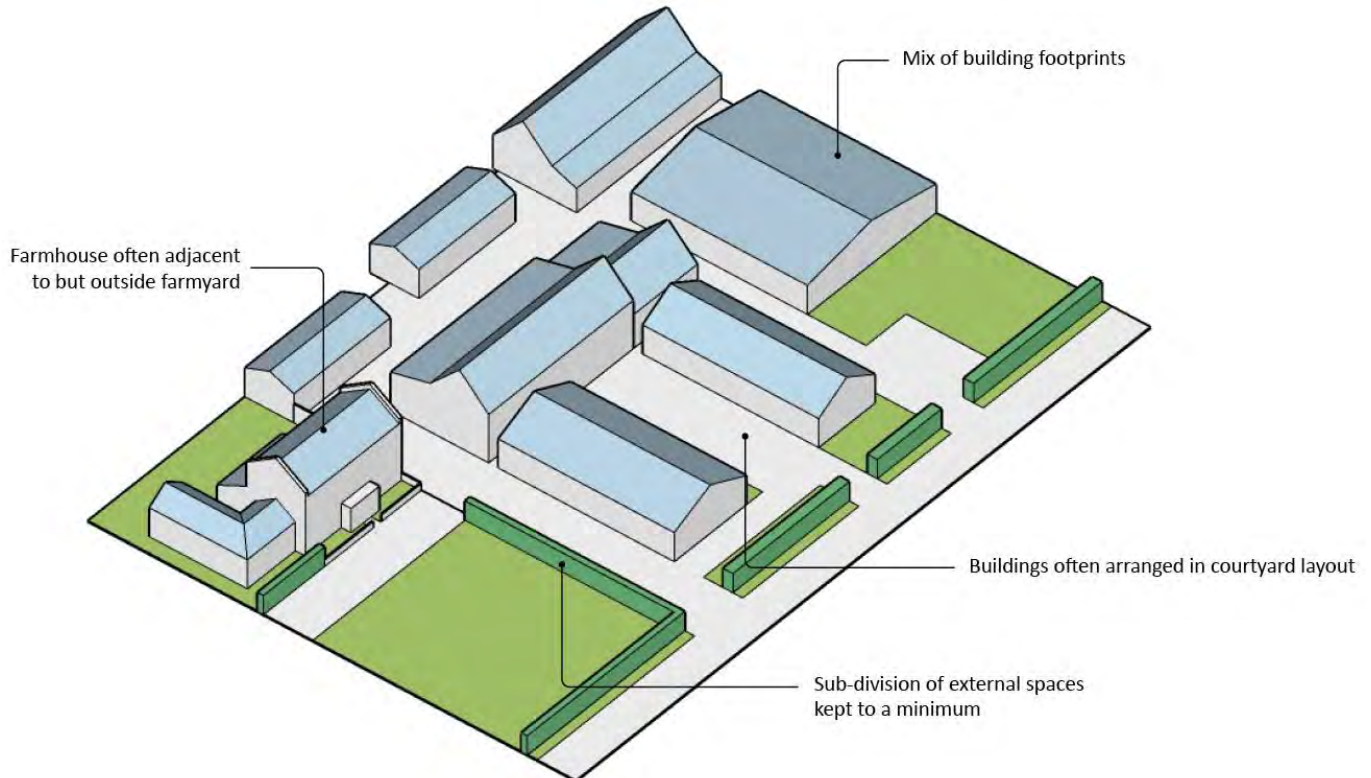
BA 22 Gardens and landscaping

BA22-6 Rural

- In rural areas, hard landscaping must be kept to a minimum.



11. The Design Codes: Codes relating to Farmsteads



Built Form

BA 2 Roof Form

BA2-7 Farmsteads

- Whilst roofs can be simple they can vary in form and configuration. Traditional roof forms must be used, normally hipped or pitched with red brick parapeted gables which are encouraged.
- Rooflights must be carefully positioned and be conservation-style and flush-fitting. They must comply with Local Plan for the Broads policy in relation to light pollution. They should be placed on the least visible roof slope and be as few in number as possible to avoid visual clutter. Rooflights will rarely be appropriate on thatched roofs.

BA 4 Width and Bays

BA4-7 Farmsteads

- A mix of building footprints is encouraged.

BA 6 Setback

BA6-7 Farmsteads

- Building setback only need to be considered where next to a public street. In some instances, it will be appropriate to position buildings immediately on the road frontage. Others should be set back, in accordance with the prevailing local context.

BA 8 Outbuildings

BA8-7 Farmsteads

- The form of the outbuilding must reflect the agricultural character of the site.

BA 12 Conversion

BA12-7 Farmsteads

- The conversion of farm buildings must ensure that the agricultural character of buildings is retained and they are not domesticated. For example, porches, chimneys and dormers are unlikely to be acceptable.

Identity

BA 15 Frontages and Entrances

BA15-7 Farmsteads

- Consideration must be given as to whether existing buildings face inwards, a common feature of courtyard farmsteads, or outwards towards the surrounding landscape. This must be respected in providing frontages for new development or conversions.
- Entrances should be simple and should not be domestic in style. Landscaping can be used to demarcate the entrance.

BA 16 Fenestration and glazing

BA16-7 Farmsteads

- Existing openings must be used for windows and doors and any new windows must be kept to a minimum and carefully positioned. Windows and doors must be designed (in terms of proportions and design of the window or door unit) to reduce the effect of domestication and ensure that the agricultural character of the building is retained.

BA 17 Materials

BA17-7 Farmsteads

- Farm buildings typically illustrate a varied material palette. Timber and metal-sheet cladding, red brick, flint and render are all materials used, with water reed thatch, pantiles and metal sheets utilised for roofing. Timber must be used for joinery.
- Where new render is proposed on a building of pre-1919 construction, consideration must be given as to how the building works and whether the render will cause damp and other long-term damage to the building. Advice can be found on the [Historic England website](#).

BA 18 Detailing

BA18-7 Farmsteads

- Brick bond must match that of the host building or predominant bond in the area.
- A brick or tarred / rendered plinth is a traditional detail on many farm buildings. Consideration must be given as to whether it would be an appropriate detail to adopt.

BA 19 Colour

BA19-8 Farmsteads

- In rural areas, bright or discordant colours can be damaging to the wider landscape. Therefore, when building within the landscape, the visual impact of a building must be reduced through the use of traditional materials or materials using the muted greens and browns of the landscape, together with the neutral colours of grey and black. Where a building stands out against the sky in an open landscape, dark recessive colours must be used.

Nature

BA 20 Boundaries

BA20-6 Farmsteads

- The sub-division and landscape design of open space around the buildings (for example in and around farmyards), must be carefully considered (for example when barn conversions are proposed). Physical sub-division and boundaries must be kept to a minimum within courtyards but also around farmsteads where the landscape often flows up to the immediate edge of buildings without any form of definition.

- Where it is necessary, light-weight 'Estate-type' railings or timber post-and-rail fences may be considered acceptable.

BA 22 Gardens and landscaping

BA22-7 Farmsteads

- Landscaping and surface treatments must reflect the historic use of the space and must not be over-domesticated. It is likely that hard landscaping, rather than soft landscaping, will be most appropriate within farmyards.
- Further guidance can be found at paragraph 3.2 of Historic England's [Adapting Traditional Farm Buildings](#) guidance.

Movement

BA35 Vehicle Parking

BA35-7 Farmsteads

- Where buildings are arranged around a courtyard, the courtyard may be used for parking.
- When buildings are being converted for new uses, the treatment of external spaces, including courtyards, should be carefully designed in terms of their surface treatment, sub-division and boundary treatment and landscaping so as not to affect the character of the space.

BA37 Access for All

BA37-7 Farmsteads

- Consideration must be given to safe access around the site.

12. Checklist

Making a Submission

- 4.1 To make a submission and demonstrate consideration and compliance with the Design Code, the checklist at Appendix 1 should be completed and submitted with all planning applications for alterations or extension to an existing building or development of new building/s. It is not a validation requirement but it is designed to help applicants ensure that they have met the requirements of the Design Code and allows them to provide explanation and a justification where this is not the case.
- 4.2 This checklist comprises a list of each code (with reference number) and self-assessment using a traffic light system:
- Green full compliance
 - Amber partial compliance, as far as possible with accompanying explanation.
 - Red an alternative approach has been applied with a justification of why the code has not been met.
- 4.3 Where a proposal deviates from the code, either with an amber or red, then a full explanation should be offered. This further explanation can either be a reference to a specific section within the Design and Access Statement or Planning Statement that addresses the particular aspect of the design or an additional comment page appended to the checklist.
- 4.4 The checklist allows applicants to reflect upon the guidance and offer an explanation for the proposal and address any inconsistencies. This allows an application to be better understood by Planning officers, to form a basis for feedback and constructive discussions where there is a different approach taken to that proposed in the Design Code. The following questions may help in devising an explanation where a proposal deviates from the code:
- What design aspect, or part, does not wholly meet the code?
 - Have other alternatives been explored, with the proposed demonstrating greater benefits than that suggested in the code?
 - Has further assessment of the local and regional context informed the different approach?
 - Are there on-site constraints that have otherwise limited the design response that mean the design code cannot be met?
 - Has the difference resulted from emphasis on meeting other design guides that mean this code cannot be fully met?

- Is the proposal innovative in such a way that the design is more appropriate for the site than what is suggested in the code?
- Have other technical studies resulted in a solution that is better suited than suggested in the code?
- Would the proposed deviation to the guidance result in harm to the overall design quality or the setting of adjacent buildings and wider landscape?

Appendix 1: Checklist

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| SITE ADDRESS | |
| APPLICANT / AGENT | |

| Code Reference | Achieved? Green / Amber / Red / N/A | Notes |
|---|--|-------|
| General codes for all applications | | |
| BA1 Context | | |
| BA2-1 Roof Form | | |
| BA3-1 Height and Storeys | | |
| BA4-1 Width and Bays | | |
| BA5-1 Building Line | | |
| BA6-1 Setback | | |
| BA7-1 Extensions | | |
| BA8-1 Outbuildings | | |
| BA9-1 Domestic Boathouses | | |
| BA10-1 Banks and Moorings | | |
| BA11-1 Replacement building | | |

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| BA12-1 Conversion | | |
| BA13-1 Security | | |
| BA14-1 Social Cohesion | | |
| BA15-1 Frontages and Entrances | | |
| BA16-1 Fenestration and glazing | | |
| BA17-1 Materials | | |
| BA18-1 Detailing | | |
| BA19-1 Colour | | |
| BA20-1 Boundaries | | |
| BA21-1 Biodiversity | | |
| BA22-1 Gardens and landscaping | | |
| BA23-1 Lighting and dark skies | | |
| BA24-1 Flood risk | | |
| BA25-1 Drainage | | |
| BA26-1 Utilities and services | | |

| | | |
|---------------------------------|--|--|
| BA27-1 Solar gain | | |
| BA28-1 Sustainability | | |
| BA29-1 Energy efficiency | | |
| BA30-1 Solar panels | | |
| BA31-1 Water efficiency | | |
| BA32-1 Air Quality | | |
| BA33-1 Street design | | |
| BA34-1 Cycling | | |
| BA35-1 Vehicle Parking | | |
| BA36-1 Electric charging points | | |
| BA37-1 Access for all | | |

| Codes for chalets | Achieved? Green / Amber/ Red / N/A | Notes |
|---------------------------------|---|--------------|
| BA2-2 Roof Form | | |
| BA3-2 Width and Bays | | |
| BA5-2 Building Line | | |
| BA6-2 Setback | | |
| BA7-2 Extensions | | |
| BA8-2 Outbuildings | | |
| BA11-2 Replacement building | | |
| BA15-2 Frontages and entrances | | |
| BA16-2 Fenestration and glazing | | |
| BA17-2 Materials | | |
| BA18-2 Detailing | | |
| BA19-2 Colour | | |

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| | | |
| BA 20-2 Boundaries | | |
| BA22-2 Gardens and landscaping | | |
| BA27-2 Solar gain | | |
| BA35-2 Vehicle Parking | | |
| BA37-2 Access for All | | |

| Codes for Waterside Homes | Achieved? Green / Amber/ Red / N/A | Notes |
|--|---|--------------|
| BA2-3 Roof form | | |
| BA4-3 Width and Bays | | |
| BA6-3 Setback | | |
| BA15-3 Frontages and entrances | | |
| BA16-3 Fenestration and glazing | | |
| BA17-3 Materials | | |

| | | |
|-------------------|--|--|
| | | |
| BA18-3 Detailing | | |
| BA20-3 Boundaries | | |
| BA27-3 Solar gain | | |

| Codes for Boatyards | Achieved? Green / Amber/ Red / N/A | Notes |
|---------------------------------|---|--------------|
| BA2-4 Roof Form | | |
| BA3-4 Height and storeys | | |
| BA7-4 Extensions | | |
| BA8-4 Outbuildings | | |
| BA15-4 Frontages and entrances | | |
| BA16-4 Fenestration and glazing | | |
| BA17-4 Materials | | |
| BA18-4 Detailing | | |

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--|--|
| BA19-4 Colour | | |
| BA19-4 Boundaries | | |
| BA21-4 Gardens and landscaping | | |
| BA26-2 Utilities and Services | | |
| BA35-4 Vehicle Parking | | |
| BA37-4 Access for All | | |

| Codes relating to historic clusters | Achieved? Green / Amber/ Red / N/A | Notes |
|--|---|--------------|
| BA2-5 Roof form | | |
| BA3-5 Height and storeys | | |
| BA6-5 Setback | | |
| BA17-5 Materials | | |
| BA18-5 Detailing | | |
| BA19-5 Colour | | |
| BA20-5 Boundaries | | |

| | | |
|---------------------------------|--|--|
| BA22-5 Gardens and landscaping | | |
| BA27-5 Solar gain | | |
| BA35-5 Vehicle parking | | |
| BA36-5 Electric charging points | | |

| Codes for Rural Homes | Achieved? Green / Amber/ Red / N/A | Notes |
|-----------------------------------|---|--------------|
| BA2-6 Roof Form | | |
| BA4-6 Width and bays | | |
| BA6-6 Setback BA16-6 Materials | | |
| BA18-6 Detailing | | |
| BA19-6 Colour | | |
| BA22-6 Gardens and landscaping | | |

| Codes for Farmsteads | Achieved? Green / | Notes |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| | | |

| | Amber/ Red / N/A | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| BA2-7 Roof Form | | |
| BA4-7 Width and bays | | |
| BA6-7 Setback | | |
| BA8-7 Outbuildings | | |
| BA12-7 Conversion | | |
| BA15-7 Frontages and entrances | | |
| BA16-7 Fenestration and glazing | | |
| BA17-7 Materials | | |
| BA18-7 Detailing | | |
| BA19-7 Colour | | |
| BA20-6 Boundaries | | |
| BA22-7 Gardens and landscaping | | |
| BA35-7 Vehicle parking | | |

| | | |
|--------------------------|--|--|
| | | |
| BA37-7 Access for all | | |

Appendix 2: Glossary

Art Nouveau: A decorative style of art and architecture, fashionable in the late 19th and early 20th century. Art Nouveau is inspired by natural forms and characterised by sinuous curves and flowing lines.

Arts and Crafts style: The Arts and Crafts movement began in the mid 19th century as a reaction to industrialisation. It promoted traditional craftsmanship and was often inspired by medieval styles.

Balustrades / Balustrading: A balustrade is a railing supported by uprights (balusters). Often used to form a barrier on a balcony, terrace or at the side of staircases.

Bargeboards: A timber facing board applied to the verges of a roof. Sometimes decorative.

Battery formation: arranged in a line and attached to one another.

Bay: the division of a building between vertical lines or planes, for example the space between two columns or the space between brick piers separating windows. Where there are no columns or other divisions and there are regularly-spaced windows, each window in a wall is counted as a bay. So if a house has two windows to either side of a central front door it would have five bays.

Building Coverage ratio: the ratio between the area of the building footprint and the site on which it sits.

Building Line: A perceived line formed by the predominant position of adjacent buildings, usually along a street frontage.

Casements: A casement window is a window that is attached to its frame by one or more hinges at the side. They are used singly, or in pairs, and occasionally in pairs with a fixed light between the opening lights. Often used in cottages.

Clerestory windows: A line of windows, typically placed at the very top of a wall.

Close-boarded fencing: A fence formed by panels of vertical boards that overlap, fixed to several rear horizontal supporting rails.

Conservation area: An area that is deemed to have a special architectural and / or historic interest, the character of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance. Conservation areas are designated heritage assets.

Conservation area appraisal: A document produced by the Local Planning Authority, setting out what is significant about a conservation area and management and enhancement proposals for its preservation and enhancement.

Context: the physical surroundings of a place.

Composite materials: A material man-made using a combination of more than one material. For example, UPVC and composite cladding and decking boards.

Cottage orné: French for 'decorated cottage', the cottage orné style promoted a rustic style of picturesque design. The style was used from the late 18th century and was a reaction against the more formal style of Regency architecture. Buildings often feature thatched roofs with timberwork, often using unhewn timbers, giving a more rustic appearance.

Design and Access Statement (DAS): A design and access statement is a short report accompanying and supporting a planning application. They provide a framework for applicants to explain how a proposed development is a suitable response to a site and its setting, and to demonstrate that it can be adequately accessed by prospective users. Certain types of application must have a DAS submitted with them. More information can be found on the [Planning Portal](#).

Dressings: precise work often in a different material to the main building material. Often surrounding the openings and protecting the vulnerable parts of an exterior.

Eaves: The eaves are the lowest part of a roof that hangs over the building's side. They often have a gutter around them.

Edwardian: dating to between 1901-1910, i.e. during the reign of King Edward VII. However, the Edwardian style of architecture is generally considered to extend to 1919.

Elevations: The sides of a building. Elevation drawings are scaled drawing of an interior or exterior vertical surface, that forms the skin of a building.

Estate-type railings: Simple metal railings consisting of wide-set horizontal bars, with vertical bars between each panel for stability. Frequently used on country estates and public parks as a boundary treatment.

Eye-brow dormer: A low dormer on the slope of a roof. It has no sides, the roofing being carried over in a wavy line.

Façade: the outside or all of the external faces of a building

Fenestration: The arrangement, proportioning and design of windows and doors in a building.

Figure-ground plan: A figure-ground diagram is a mapping technique used to illustrate the relationship between built and unbuilt spaces. Buildings are shown as solid mass (figure), whilst public spaces, street, parks etc are shown as voids (ground).

Finials: a terminal feature treated differently from the pier or structure it surmounts. Described by its form (e.g. ball finial, spike finial etc).

Flemish bond brickwork: an arrangement of bricks in which headers and stretchers alternate in each course. The predominant form of brickwork throughout the Georgian period.

Flint: a building material widely found and used in Norfolk. Generally used close to its source as it was heavy to move. Use either in its natural rounded form or 'knapped' (cut and shaped).

Floor Area Ratio: the ratio between the area of the total floor area of the building (floorspace on all floors) and the site on which it sits.

Gable / gable end wall: The triangular section of wall supporting two sides of a pitched roof. Can also be used to describe the whole end wall of a building which includes a gable.

Gault brick: bricks made of gault clay which produces a smooth yellow / cream coloured brick popular in the mid-late Victorian period.

Georgian: dating to between 1714-1830 (eg, during the reign of one of the four Georges: King George I to King George IV).

Green and blue infrastructure: Green infrastructure is a strategically-planned network of natural and semi-natural areas with other environmental features, designed and managed to deliver a wide range of ecosystem services (e.g. water purification, improving air quality) and enhance biodiversity. Blue infrastructure has similar benefits but relates to water structure, including lakes, ponds, streams, rivers and storm water provision. Green and blue infrastructure planning is a holistic approach that integrates green spaces and water features in urban and rural areas to create more sustainable, resilient and visually appealing places.

Grey water / grey water harvesting: Grey water is waste water from domestic appliances such as washing machines, baths, showers and sinks (not the kitchen sink or toilet). It can be treated in a greywater recycling system and reused for non-potable applications such as irrigation or toilet flushing.

Heritage assets: A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest. It includes designated heritage asset (listed buildings, conservation areas, scheduled monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens) and heritage assets identified by the Local Planning Authority.

Hipped roof: A roof where all four sides of the roof slope with equal pitch downwards from the ridge. It does not have a gable.

Joinery: Architectural features such as windows, doors, bargeboards and balustrades made of timber.

Lime: a white caustic alkaline substance consisting of calcium oxide, which is obtained by heating limestone and which combines with water with the production of much heat. Traditionally used in building for lime mortars, renders and plasters and is more flexible and breathable than modern materials.

Local distinctiveness: The characteristics of the built environment (e.g. materials, particular architectural features) that make a place distinctive and different from other places.

Local Plan: The Local Plan is a document produced by the Local Planning Authority that guides decisions on future development proposals and addresses the needs and opportunities of the area. It contains planning policies that proposed development should comply with.

Massing: perception of the general shape, form and size of a building.

Mock or half-timbering: non-structural, decorative use of timberwork, as distinct from structural timber-framing. Popularly used in the late 19th and early 20th centuries and associated with the revival of vernacular architecture.

National Design Guide, 2021: The National Design Guide sets out the characteristics of well-designed places and demonstrates what good design means in practice. It forms part of the government's collection of planning practice guidance.

National Model Design Code, 2021: Detailed guidance from the government on the production of design codes, guides and policies to promote successful design.

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), December 2024: The NPPF sets out the government's policies for planning in England and how these are expected to be applied. The document is updated regularly.

Palisade fencing: typically a heavy-duty fence used for security. It consists of vertical metal elements, sometimes with spikes, with horizontal elements for support on the rear.

Pantiles: Tiles with a wavy S-profile, designed to overlap the neighbouring tile. Traditionally made in clay.

Parapetted gable: A gable end that extends above the roofline to form a parapet.

Pargetting: A form of plasterwork used on external walls. Decorative motifs and images are formed with lime plaster in relief.

Period: Date of construction; a period in history

Permitted development: Development that is permitted without the need for planning permission. This is set out in the [Town and Country Planning \(General Permitted Development\) \(England\) Order 2015](#).

Pitched roof: A roof that has two sloping sides meeting at a ridge.

Plain tiles: Simple flat tiles, traditionally made in clay.

Planning Statement: A short document to accompany a planning application. It allows applicants and agents to explain the design and overall concept behind a proposed development. It justifies why it is acceptable in planning terms.

Plinth: a projecting base of a wall. In the Broads often brick or with a tarred finish.

Post-and-rail fencing: Fencing normally in timber with vertical posts supporting a number (frequently 2) horizontal rails.

Quayheading: a structure that forms the interface between land and water.

Rainwater harvesting: rainwater is collected and can be used for non-potable uses. On a small scale this may be a water butt with rainwater used to water a garden. On a larger scale this can be harvesting of rainwater into a below-ground storage tank for re-use for laundry or toilet flushing.

Render: coats of plaster applied to an external surface. Lime-based render is used on historic structures.

Reveals: the inner surface of an opening or recess in a wall, typically in relation to a window or door.

Ridge: The horizontal area where the top of roof slopes meet.

Rustic-style unhewn timber: Timber that has not been given a finished form by shaping or smoothing.

Scale: 1) the size of a structure; 2) a scale drawing is reduced drawing that is proportional size to the scale of the original object, meaning all of the ratios between the corresponding parts of the original item and the drawing are equal. Normally using set ratios, e.g. 1:100.

Shiplap timber cladding: 'shiplap' refers to the way the timber boards overlap each other. Each board has a recess cut into both the top and bottom which allows the boards to be slotted together with no gaps providing a watertight finish.

Shingles: thin, tapered pieces of wood, primarily used to cover roofs and walls of buildings to protect them from the weather.

Slates: roofing slates are tiles made out of naturally mined slate. The rock is split into thin sheets, cut to the required size. Suitable for a pitch of more than 20 degrees.

Staithe: a landing stage for the loading and unloading of boats, often cargo boats.

Sustainable urban drainage systems (SUDS); a system designed to manage stormwater locally, to mimic natural drainage systems. Designed to manage both flood and pollution risks, whilst providing environmental enhancement and place-making benefits.

Thatch: a roof covering of straw or water reeds. In the Broads, water reed is used and is grown and harvested locally.

Verandah: an outdoor covered area, often running along the side or front of a house.

Verges: The outer ends of the roof on the gable end.

Vernacular: traditional forms of building using traditional materials.

Victorian: dating to between 1837 and 1901, i.e. during the reign of Queen Victoria.

Water reed: a thatching material that has been used for centuries and almost exclusively used in the Broads. It is commonly known as water reed, Continental Water Reed or Norfolk Reed.