DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
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21 High Street, Desford

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This application was precipitated by the action of the occupier of No 17 High Street who had the temerity to increase the height of the boundary wall between our properties to 8' or more, in order to screen our outbuildings from view. No planning application had been made prior to the work being carried out. The planning department became involved at our request and the wall was subsequently returned to its original height (Your Ref 08/00069/UNBLD). However, we did feel that the state of the buildings was detrimental to the remainder of our property which we have renovated extensively with the advice and assistance of the Conservation Officer, Mr Wkirrity.

Having obtained an Archeological Report as requested by Mr Wkirrity we then contacted Mr R. Foster, Chartered Surveyor, of Messrs Rose & Cooper. He carried out an inspection of the structures and his report is enclosed. It is clear from both reports that the only solution to our dilema is the complete demolition of the outbuildings (wash-house, garden store/shed, and toilet block).

Whilst it is regrettable that these buildings, and in particular the wash-house, should be lost, I would point out that the Archeological

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Report does indicate that it is constructed from inferior re-used materials and therefore of no significant historical value. There are several more superior, better preserved examples of this type of building, surviving elsewhere in the Borough. Their whereabouts will be known to the Conservation Officer.

The Structural Survey states that the wash house is constructed from poor quality stretcher bond, the entrance door is of poor, interior quality, and there are vertical joints in the brickwork below the window frame. Differing bricks have been used in the construction, external walls and gables are boxed, with poor quality rendering on the exterior. Approximately 80% of the brick faces are blown or bricked and therefore would require replacing.

Should our application be approved, we would retain the overall footprint of the buildings. We are also looking to incorporate the slate sink from the wash-house elsewhere in our garden.

The Archeological and Structural Reports are enclosed for your information.

F.H. Thomas (MR)