

DESIGN AND ACCESS STATEMENT

IN SUPPORT OF A PLANNING APPLICATION FOR

AN AGRICULTURAL COVERED MUCK MIDDEN AND AN AGRICULTURAL SHEEP

BUILDING

AT

WALLERCLOUGH, MILL LANE, CHIPPING, PRESTON, LANCASHIRE, PR3 2PB.

Amount

This application is for the demolition of one agricultural building to be replaced with a undercover manure storage and an agricultural building to house sheep to be used in conjunction with the applicants existing livestock buildings. The applicant currently has an approximate headage of 17 suckler cows, 3 heifers and 5 calves and 65 ewes and 55 lambs with the only provision on site for the storage of manure being tipped in a heap outdoors. The existing agricultural building that is to be demolished is old and was made from materials the applicants had already got and is now too small and is no longer fit for purpose in line with modern day farming practices. The applicants are having to house their flock of sheep in the cattle cubicle shed.

Use

The proposed building will provide under cover storage for manure produced on the farm. The applicant is applying for this building along with a grant from Natural England under catchment sensitive farming. The manure on site is currently stored outside on the yard area for 3 – 4 months before being spread on the land. By providing a covered area for this manure it ensures that all the nitrates available are retained in the manure which in turn acts as good fertiliser for the pasture land. When undercover the manure is not subject to adverse weather conditions which reduce the nitrate content of the soil and can produce run off of dirty water into the ground water sources. The Ribble Valley has been targeted by Natural England as being a Catchment Sensitive Target area and they are working alongside the environment agency to reduce pollution into the ground water and river sources, therefore for the applicant to comply with these regulations this building is essential.

The proposed agricultural building will provide housing for the applicant's flock of sheep and lambs which are currently lambing in the cattle cubicle building as the existing building (which is to be demolished) is too small and no longer fit for purpose.

Layout

The proposed building will be sited in the farm yard and where the existing agricultural building is located on site which can be clearly seen on the location map accompanying the planning application. The building will provide storage for the bedding manure produced from the applicant's livestock which will be kept dry until it is needed on the surrounding fields. The buildings will be sited in this location to reduce any impact on the surrounding area, whilst providing enough room on the yard area for the turning and maneuvering of vehicles.

Scale

The scale of the covered manure store is in keeping with the amount of manure produced on site and also in keeping with the other buildings on site. The height of the building is essential to provide access by large machinery when the building is being cleaned out. The scale of the agricultural building is in keeping with the size of the applicants flock of sheep.

Landscaping

No further hard or soft landscaping is proposed as part of this application as the yard area is already adequate enough.

Appearance

The appearance of the building has been designed to reflect a modern agricultural building of this type whilst taking the surrounding buildings into account. The choice of materials will ensure that the roof and side cladding will ensure the building blends into its surroundings whilst being designed for purpose.

Access

Access to the site will remain as existing and there is adequate room for the turning and maneuvering of vehicles and room for emergency vehicles if they were ever required on site