

320170110P

Agricultural and Planning Statement

*For, Lyme House Farm, Thornley with Wheatley
Applicants E Roper and Sons*

Agricultural Justification

To create a general purpose store adjacent to the existing manure store which is situate near to the existing slurry storage. The need for a separate new store for dairy and calf/youngstock rearing units has been identified by the applicant. This will be used to provide the inputs for the increasing numbers of calves born to the dairy herd and reared from day old for several months before entering the replacement dairy heifer and beef rearing enterprises. In addition given the significant fluctuations in feed and fertilizer prices as a result of supply, market and currency fluctuations it is necessary to carry more stocks on hand. The business can then weather the more difficult times forecast ahead following departure from the EU agri support mechanisms. The herd had relied on a number of bought in heifers each year but now the herd is more established. The quality home bred heifer calves are being reared along with a number of beef calves which has increased the demands on existing buildings for livestock accommodation. As such the existing dairy and heifer rearing livestock buildings do not provide any spare space to provide for the requirement to store machinery, bought in feed, bedding and fertilizer. The proposed general purpose store seeks to remedy this deficit.

Design

The new building is to be of the same construction and materials as the existing buildings on the site. The orientation is parallel to the adjacent existing manure store. The proposed new storage building will be partly dug into the existing gradient of the land thus reducing the apparent visual impact and the roofline is lower than that of the adjacent building. The materials to be used are a steel frame, fibre cement roof and with reinforced concrete panelled walls with profile steel cladding above. The suggested colour is juniper green to match the existing building adjacent.

Transport & Access

Access to the site is from the public highway uses the existing entrance and drive. The existing entrance is onto a straight section of road with good sightlines. This application does not seek to alter the existing entrance or usage of it.

Access around the Building

Access to and around the building is to be from the existing farm yard area to the west side. The new storage will service the existing farm buildings.

Appearance

The materials are going to be similar to the completed modern buildings in the existing farmstead. With the roofline lower than the existing manure store, the new store will add negligible visual impact to views from the road to the west and hidden on the approaches to the farm by other existing buildings and structures.

Conclusion

The proposed new store for the dairy, youngstock and calf units will improve the management of the holding, the feeding, and welfare of dairy cows, dairy heifers, and beef cattle.