

Design and Access Statement

Applicant : Mr & Mrs G Holt, New Elmridge Farm, Gib Hey Lane, Longridge PR3 2WU

This full planning application is for a proposal to erect a mono-pitch agricultural building providing for cattle housing, feeding, and including some storage from time to time. The building will have a mono-pitched portal framed roof and be sited adjacent to and adjoining the existing manure store.

Agricultural Statement

The existing family farming business comprises an expanding herd of beef suckler cows, in calf heifers, bulling heifers, and beef young stock of various ages. In addition the holding supports a growing flock of sheep. This family business owns the farm and rents some more land locally. There is an existing business plan to retain more of the home bred beef calves and sheep.

Providing a roof and structure to house the additional beef cattle required for the business will reduce the need to sell young store cattle prior to finishing or inclusion in the heifer rearing enterprise.

Design

The cattle building is to be of the same construction and materials as the existing buildings on the site. This building will provide loose housing on straw adjoining the existing manure store. As this building will continue to utilise the existing landscaping bund which will be maintained in appearance on the north west side and maintain the low impact of the existing buildings. The chosen materials to be used are a steel frame and fibre cement roof sheeting (with clear plastic roof-lights) and timber space boarding cladding above the existing and proposed concrete panel walls. Any sheeted gates will be clad with Juniper green steel sheets. The design of the proposed building has been sought so as to have regard for the policies of landscape, visual impact and the Area of Natural Beauty.

Transport & Access

Access to the site is from the public highway using the existing farm access track. This application does not seek to alter the use of the entrance. There is an existing farm yard area to the south of the proposed new building for access and turning. This yard area will not be obstructed by the proposed building which is set in line with the existing manure store.

Access around the Building

Access to and around the buildings is to be from the existing farm yard area. The existing manure store is to be retained and will continue to service the existing farm buildings on the holding. The existing turning area for feed deliveries will be retained and not encroached on by the proposed cattle building.

Appearance

The materials are going to be similar to the completed buildings in the existing farmstead. As described above there is minimal net visual impact from the existing situation.

Appraising the Context

The completion of the building will improve the provision of suitable livestock housing for the beef cows, beef replacements and young beef cattle. The improved housing will protect feed/bedding and will retain essential nutrients and prevent deterioration/wastage. The modern cattle housing will reduce the high stocking in the larger range of buildings and the associated risk of respiratory conditions. The proposed cattle housing is justified above as reasonably required for agriculture and for the business on this agricultural unit.

Additional details - see form and plans.