

Agricultural and Design Statement

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

This prior notification is to erect general purpose agricultural buildings providing for storage of machinery and farm deliveries of feed and inputs. The buildings will have a pitched roofs, portal frames and be sited adjacent to the existing livestock building.

Agricultural Statement

The existing family farming business comprises a herd of beef suckler cows, in calf heifers, bulling heifers, and beef young stock of various ages. In addition the holding supports an expanding 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. Farm deliveries of feed and inputs require a separate store to segregate deliveries thus reducing the risk of farm to farm disease transmission and ensuring that all farm staff remain covid secure when later handling quarantined deliveries. Providing a roof and structure to store the farm equipment and machinery required for the existing business will reduce the depreciation on machinery currently stored outdoors.

Design

The storage buildings are to be of the same construction and materials as the existing buildings on the site. The buildings will provide cover adjacent to the existing livestock building. The proposed buildings will maintain a similar appearance on the south west side and reduce the impact of the existing higher buildings. The chosen materials to be used are a steel frame and fibre cement roof sheeting (with clear plastic roof-lights) and box profile cladding (Juniper green) for building A in part above proposed concrete panel walls at the north west corner. Both buildings are open fronted to the existing yard and enclosed to the other three sides. The design of the proposed buildings 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 adjoining the proposed new buildings for access and turning.

Access around the Building

Access to and around the buildings is to be from the existing farm yard area. The existing livestock building will be retained and will continue to service the holding. The existing circular yard access route will be retained for access to all buildings.

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 buildings will improve the provision of suitable storage for farm equipment, machinery and deliveries for the beef cows, beef replacements, young beef cattle and sheep. The improved storage will protect deliveries preventing deterioration/wastage and depreciation of farm machinery. The improved storage will dramatically reduce the risk of leaching which is currently the case when machinery/inputs are stored in the open elements. The proposed storage facilities are justified above as reasonably required for agriculture and for the business on this agricultural unit.

Additional details - see form and plans.