

Agricultural and Design Statement

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

This prior notification is to provide a new roof over the existing manure store. The building will have a mono-pitched roof, portal frames and be sited over the existing concrete panel walls.

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.

Design

The proposed roof over the existing manure store is to be of the same construction and materials as the existing buildings on the site. The building will provide cover over the manure store to exclude rain water. The structure is not used for slurry or housing livestock. The proposed building will maintain a similar appearance on the south west side and reduce the impact of the existing higher feed store building. 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) above the existing concrete panel walls at the south west corner. The building is to be open fronted to the existing yard and open to the two adjacent buildings. 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. Additional details - see form and plans.

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 building for access and turning.

Access around the Building

Access to and around the building is to be from the existing farm yard area. The existing livestock buildings 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 building will improve the provision of suitable manure storage for the farm livestock including beef cows, beef replacements, young beef cattle and sheep. The improved storage will protect from the many months of high rainfall. The improved storage will dramatically reduce the risk of leaching which is currently the case when manure is stored in the open elements. The proposed roofing over of the existing manure storage facilities is justified above as reasonably required for agriculture and for the business on this agricultural unit.