



Ribble Valley Borough Council

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR AGRICULTURAL APPLICATIONS

Applicant Name: Charles Stanton and Jenny Ottewell

Application Site: Cow Ark Farm, Cow Ark, BB7 3DF

Holding Number: 21/642/0011

Proposed Development: Proposed re-roofing and extension to farm building

*Please answer all parts to this form*

## 1. Land

Total Area of Holding: (Hectares) 20

Owned: (Hectares) 20

Rented: (Hectares) 0

If rented, type of tenancy: (AHA, FBT) \_\_\_\_\_

Land Use: (Hectares)

Pasture: \_\_\_\_\_

Meadow: 20

Crop: \_\_\_\_\_

Land Quality: (DA/SDA/NVZ) SDA and DA

## 2. Enterprise

Dairy Cows: \_\_\_\_\_

Sheep (ewes): \_\_\_\_\_

Dairy cattle in calf: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Sheep: \_\_\_\_\_

Beef Cows: 12

Location of Lambing: \_\_\_\_\_

Bulls: 3

Sows: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Cattle: 15

Other Pigs: \_\_\_\_\_

Poultry: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Livestock: \_\_\_\_\_

Crops (Type): \_\_\_\_\_

### **3. Farm Buildings & Machinery**

**Existing Farm Buildings:**

(sizes, type and use)

The 6 bay shed had an area of approx 280 sqm.

The roof was in poor condition, it had yorkshire boarding to the West and was open to the East. 4 of the bays were used for housing cattle, one bay is used as a log and farm store and the remaining bay had to provide space for the other uses including housing bulls, storing straw, a sick/calving pen. The cattle handling system was external, with limited protection from the weather and there was no covered storage for machinery or large equipment.

**Farm Machinery:**

(type and use)

David Brown 1490 4WD tractor with loader this is used for day to day mucking out, transporting and feeding silage and straw bales as well as general work in the fields.

Polaris Ranger, used for accessing fields and general transport.

**Existing Slurry Capacity:** 25m<sup>3</sup> tank for waste water

### **4. Details of the proposed development**

Is the proposal reasonably required for the purposes of agriculture? (Please explain why)

The proposed shed is designed for housing

cattle and their management. It doubles the area for housing the cattle, it increases the number of pens from 2 to 6. This allows us to better group the cattle by age and gender. It includes a dedicated calving and bull pens, with associated locking yokes and calving gate. It includes a midden, straw storage and a dedicated handling system to allow cattle to be treated by the vet without having to access the race.

Is the proposed development designed for the purposes of agriculture? (Please explain how)

The new and replacement roof has been

designed to increase the light levels within the barn whilst allowing for ventilation at the ridge.

One bay has concrete panels to 3m high to allow for the storage of manure, the East facing

bays have wind/rain perforated blinds, the other walls have concrete panels with yorkshire

boarding above. The open North side has metal gates with boarding above.

Are there any future plans that are relevant to the proposed development? (Expansion of herd/diversification ect.)

It is likely that the number of breeding cattle will

be increased from 12 to 20 cows with a corresponding increase in young stock. There are no

further changes planned.

### **5. Any further information**

The barns bring the whole operation under cover which improves significantly the welfare of the

stock and the staff/vet managing them. We had reached a point whereby we either had to

invest in better facilities or reduce or wind down the farming operation altogether. As our

youngest son is nearly qualified as a vet and is interested in the pedigree breeding we felt

that it was an investment that would support the ongoing operation of the farm for the

forseeable future.

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