Hardcastle Rural Surveyors

Agricultural Justification Statement

In respect of a Planning Application for a
New Farm Building at Causeway Green Farm, Scammonden,
Huddersfield, HD3 3FR

Client:
PD & PM Pogson
Causeway Green Farm
Scammonden
Huddersfield
HD3 3FR

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Ref: HRS/DS/1739

AGRICULTURAL JUSTIFICATION STATEMENT

Instructions

Instructions were received from PD & PM Pogson to consider the proposal for a new farm building at Causeway Green Farm and to provide an Agricultural Justification Statement

The Client

PD & PM Pogson
Causeway Green Farm
Scammonden
Huddersfield
HD3 3FR

The Property

Causeway Green Farm
Scammonden
Huddersfield
HD3 3FR

Details of Land Farmed:

Area Owned:	326	acres
Area Tenanted:	0	acres
Grazing Lets:	0	acres
Total Land:	326	acres

Consisting of:

Other:	8.50	acres
Meadow land:	19.00	acres
Pasture land:	298.50	acres

Details of Livestock:

Dairy cows	75	head
Dairy followers	20	head
Store Cattle	40	head
Breeding Ewes	80	head
Lambs	144	head

Summary of Existing Farming Business

The business is currently running a dairy herd with followers and a flock ewes which are lambed each year in the spring. The farming business is centred around a commercial dairy herd based at Causeway Green Farm with liquid milk production the primary focus of the farm.

The farm operates over a large area of owned land with the land put to grass for the production of silage/ hay crops and productive grazing ground.

There is currently limited storage for straw, hay and feedstuffs on the site and some of the machinery is stored outside due to a lack of available building space. There is a requirement for more storage on the holding.

Objectives & Business Development

The applicant runs an extensive dairy and sheep farm. The milk is partly sold locally to businesses and the community. The ewes are lambed in the spring with lambs sold for slaughter in local auction marts. The applicant is applying for environmental schemes to help improve the farmland.

Reasons for proposed development

There is currently limited suitable agricultural buildings on the farm for the storage of feedstuffs, hay and straw, machinery is partly stored outside on the land.

Demand for hay and straw is very high in the area due to poor harvests and increasing demands from expanding livestock farms, hay cannot be stored outside without being wrapped in plastic which is both costly and damaging to the environment. Straw which is stored outside can experience waste of up to 30% due to rain damage and rot. By storing the farms hay and straw inside there will be a significant increase in its feed value and reduced wastage.

There is also a need for a dry store for the safe storage of the farms other feedstuffs. The following is a brief calculation of the quantities of hay, and feedstuffs required for the current livestock on the holding:

Feedstuffs

Dairy Cows	210kg/head x 95 head	= 19,950kg	
Store Cattle	300kg/head x 40 head	= 12,000kg	
		Total 31,950kg	
31.95t @ 2.7cum/t = 86.27cum at 1.5m high =			57.51sqm

Hay production off 19.0ac, 1.5x cuts per year @ 2.8t/ac/cut = 79.80t

79.80 tonnes @ 9cum/t = 718.20cum at 2.5m high =	287.28sqm
Total feed storage area required	344.79sqm

Additionally the farms machinery is partly stored outside and experiences damage and decay due to the weather. There is a need for a secure building to store the farms machinery, many of which have electronic components which are not suited to being stored outside year round.

This machinery generally comprises: Tractor, loader, mower, tedder, rake, bale grab and trailer.

The total floor area of the proposed building extends to approximately 371sqm leaving a small area for the storage of machinery and other essential agricultural equipment.

Reasons for Materials, Design & Construction

The steel portal frame design allows for quick and easy construction and provides a good storage area clear of internal divides. The use of concrete panels allows for a strong supporting structure which can both contain materials and exclude people and livestock. Concrete is easily cleaned to allow for hygienic conditions.

Yorkshire board timber cladding allows for ventilation while preventing much of the prevailing weather entering the building. The construction is cost effective and provides secure storage.

The use of fibre cement roof sheets allows for cost effective construction which provides a long lasting strong material suitable for agricultural storage.

D A Shepherd

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