

**Design Support Statement:**

**Fourlands Farm, 9 Little Lepton, Huddersfield, HD8 0LN**

This statement has been prepared by Mrs. S Hymas (Agent) on behalf of the applicant and owner Mrs S Gill, to support a planning application for the construction of an Equestrian Riding Arena on the owner's land to the south of the existing stable block location. (See Appendix 1 Showing Proposed/Existing Site)

**Development Use**

The applicant and her family have a keen interest in dressage and show jumping. These are riding skills that benefit from using an arena with a specific surface to practice all the relevant disciplines required to carry out this activity.

As well as allowing the owner and her family to practice dressage & jumping skills, the installation of an arenas would also improve the quality of life for the owner's horses, as they will get more exercise as currently, they are getting exercised and ridden "off site" which requires transporting them to various equestrian centres in the area. The installation of an equestrian arena would also provide a safe environment to exercise the horses, instead of having to exercise them along the public highways.

The arena would be strictly for private use only and not for any commercial equestrian enterprise whatsoever.

**Scale**

The proposed development is for an equestrian riding arena measuring 40m in length by a width of 20m. (800m<sup>2</sup>) accessed through an existing access gate (5 Bar Timber Gate Situated within the timber post and rail boundary fence) .

**Layout/Siting**

The siting of the proposed equestrian arena is to be located in an existing grass paddock. surrounded by existing farmland/fields with the existing range of stables and farm buildings flanking it.

An existing hedge marks the boundaries of the existing paddock, and these would not be affected by the proposed development.

**Position**

The location of the proposed equestrian arena has been carefully selected to be in keeping with the site location, views from its approach and from surrounding areas

**Appearance**

The Appearance and construction of the proposed area will be of typical design with post and timber rail fencing around the perimeter of the arena. The construction of the arena will be carried out by a "Hymas Arenas" who specialize in equestrian arena construction and are dedicated to providing the highest quality riding arenas using only top-quality materials and skilled workmen.

[www.hymasarenas.co.uk](http://www.hymasarenas.co.uk)

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The fencing materials used will be of the same colour & material of the existing site boundary timber fencing.

The proposed arena surface will be constructed from a mix of silica sand and stabilizing fibre.

### **Landscaping**

As highlighted in the submitted plans, there will be some works to the ground within the 40 x 20m equestrian arena which involves some cut and fill operations to level the ground and facilitate the laying of a new surface.

The work will include the removal of all topsoil and vegetation within the area of the arena, the levelling of the ground and the preparation of the arena surface.

As the whole surface area will be permeable, PVCu sustainable drainage pipe will be installed in newly constructed drainage channels with the stone base to allow any surface water to drain away into a newly constructed soak away.

The proposed surface materials are a mixture of silica sand and stabilising fibre.

The arena will be used solely during daylight hours and there will be no floodlighting erected around the arena therefore there will be no light pollution affecting the surrounding environment.

### **Access**

The proposed arena would be accessed using the existing private vehicular access track (Which is accessed from the public highway Lepton Lane). The introduction of the proposed arena to the site would not increase the number of vehicles accessing the site. As previously mentioned, it would significantly reduce the use of the access track and reduce the owners carbon footprint as the need to transport the horses to local equestrian venues to exercise the horses would no longer be required.

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**Appendix 1**

Photographs showing existing site for proposed development.



A) South East Aspect



B) North Eastern Aspect



C) North Aspect



D) Site Entrance