

Wednesday, June 17, 2026

Blue Hills Farm, Birkenshaw, BD11 2 DU

To Michael and Sid Singh,

Agricultural Holding
Number for Land at
Spen House
49/529/0827

I Carlton Ives of Blue Hills Farm, Birkenshaw, BD11 2DU am a life member of the National Farmers Union, also a life member of the Country Landowners Association, also a life member of Owners and Tennant Association, I have sat on all these committees helping farmers with agricultural planning and building applications.

I myself farm three agricultural holdings in the Kirklees area and I've also purchased a farm in the Dales, North Yorkshire and its under the National Park rules and regulations, I applied for three agricultural buildings known as fold-yards to house cattle and got them passed in weeks. I myself have judged animals locally and on County Level and I took Manni the Son of the owner of this land in question with me on many occasions and I would say he's classed as a rising star in the farming world, with not many people going into agriculture these days, which agriculture needs this type of interested person.

It's fair to say with my experience this agricultural building on agricultural land for agricultural use I would go personally for permitted development, it was 500 square metres, but now its 1000 square metres, and I understand that you qualify every two years for another 1000 square metres.

My late Father worked for DR. Ann Smith of Pollard Hall, Gomersal, he worked in the gardens and vegetable gardens and adjacent to the hall there was a large area of land where she grew her own fruit and vegetables and reared turkeys, ducks and geese for the Christmas trade, she eventually bought Popeley Farm, Gomersal, the farm baliffe was called Jack Wood and my Father worked under him from time to time and in later years her Son Frederick Smith lived at Spen House and myself helped on the land and I cut and mowed some of the land at Spen House for myself, I remember one year I planted 3 acres of potatoes for myself, which I lost all the crop with potato blight and that year the Smith famiy came out of Spen House and the new owners didn't want me on the land. Some years later the Singh family bought the house and moved in and from time to time I've mowed the land for hay and hayledge for my cattle and in recent years have mown it for the Singh family and shared of the crop.