



**SUPPORTING STATEMENT IN RELATION TO A
FULL PLANNING APPLICATION FOR THE ERECTION OF AN
AGRICULTURAL REPLACEMENT LIVESTOCK BUILDING**

AT

**GRANGE FARM
BLACKWOOD HILL
ENDON
STOKE ON TRENT
ST9 9AH**

**ON BEHALF OF
E W MOSS & SON**

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1.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- This Report has been produced to support a Full Planning application to Staffordshire Moorlands District Council in relation to a proposal to erect an agricultural replacement building at Grange Farm, Endon.
- Grange Farm is accessed from Blackwood Hill Lane. Blackwood Hill Lane is a Classified C road.
- Grange Farm is located within Flood Zone 1.
- The applicant operates an established agricultural business extending to 350 acres.
- The farm business is kept under Holding Number 37/079/0154.
- The farm is Red Tractor Farm Assured and has to meet strict protocols to gain this accreditation.
- Stocking numbers comprise of approximately 220 dairy cattle.
- The applicant has expanded the farming operations over recent years. This has increased their requirement for agricultural buildings to serve the holding.
- The existing calf housing has shared air space within adult stock, this can cause health problems for calves.
- It is essential that suitable housing is available to meet welfare requirements especially during cold wet weather.
- At present, the applicant has insufficient space to house the stock levels and to store the fodder and implements required to manage the holding.

- The existing brick building to be replaced is located within the existing farmyard, this building dates from around the 1960s and has been extended in the 1980s with unattractive bricks. This building is used to house lambs and chickens and to provide storage. This building is not adequately ventilated and is impractical for the modern day farming practices.



- The proposed replacement building will be used to house approximately 60 beef calves.
- The proposed replacement building will be used in conjunction with the applicant's substantial existing farm business.
- No changes to the existing farm access are required as a result of this development.
- This development will have no impact on the current line of the Public Footpath.

2.0 REQUIREMENT FOR AGRICULTURAL BUILDING

- The proposed building would be used to house and feed approximately 60 No. calves ranging in age from newborn to three months.
- The proposed building is of a steel portal framed construction (to match existing buildings) with an overall length of 24.384 meters, width of 10.973 meters and an eaves height (from finished floor level) of 4.572 meters.
- The existing building to be replaced has a floor area of 139.2m². The proposed replacement building has a floor area of 267.56m² thus increasing the overall floor area by 128.36m².
- The building will be of an open plan type design and livestock will be loose-housed. Calves will be individually penned for the first 7-8 weeks following which they will be grouped dependent on age and size. Pens will be created using gates.
- This building will accommodate the required stocking densities and ventilation and will also allow for a well-drained, dry lying area. All animals will have access to an adequate supply of clean drinking water at all times.
- The design of the building ensures maximum comfort and welfare in all aspects of the unit to ensure that no injury is inflicted on the calf.
- Deep litter bedding will be used on the solid concrete floor; this bedding will then be spread back on the applicants land. Soils will draw down the carbon.
- This building will enable the applicant to house his calves away from adult stock thus reducing health problems.
- This building will ensure good farm/stock management with easily maintained clean and hygienic conditions.
- This building will ensure a good strong future for their business.

- This building will be constructed from a low carbon materials.
- This building incorporates a Factory coated coloured fibre cement sheeted roof coloured Slate Blue (BS 18B29) with vertical cladding of treated Yorkshire boarding, fibre cement sheeting coloured Slate Blue (BS 18B29) and pre-stressed concrete panels. Materials to match existing buildings.
- The building incorporates clear roof sheeting to allow natural lighting.
- The materials proposed are in keeping with the surroundings and typical of this type of building.
- This proposal will ensure that the modern agricultural buildings which serve this farm unit are grouped together thus minimising the overall impact of this development
- Full elevations and site plans have been prepared and can be referenced as follows:-
 - ✓ Location Plan 14975-001
 - ✓ Block Plan 14975-002
 - ✓ Elevation Details 14975-003
- This building will replace an existing brick building. We feel it has been sited in the most appropriate location on the holding both from a functional perspective and landscape and visual impact.
- Access to the building will be from existing vehicular roadways to and around the holding. The applicant does not seek to increase the number of roadways and there will be no increase in traffic as a result of the development.

3.0 CONCLUSION

- There is clear justification for the replacement building to serve the applicants existing livestock enterprise.
- The existing building to be replaced is impractical for the modern day farming practices.
- The size and scale of the building is commensurate with the applicants needs to support their agricultural enterprise.
- The siting and design of the building minimizes the visual and landscape impact.
- No changes to the existing access are required as a result of this development. Vehicle impact to the surrounding area will be unaltered.
- The proposed building is located with the existing modern agricultural buildings which serve this farm unit.
- In the current agricultural climate dairy farms are becoming increasingly rare, it is important to maintain, support and enhance a sustainable rural farming community, Local Planning Authorities are encouraged to approve proposals such as this where the applicants have successfully balanced the needs of their enterprise whilst preserving and conserving the natural environment.
- This proposed development will ensure the ongoing viability of the existing farming enterprise.