

DESIGN AND ACCESS STATEMENT

Client
EC Hine & Son
Middlecliff
Bradnop
Leek
ST13 7NB

**Proposal: Portal frame livestock
housing building.**

Prepared by

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The proposed building will be of portal frame construction used to house the youngstock onsite. The building is purpose built for the housing of cattle and is vital to the farm business enterprise onsite due to the lack of available housing for the youngstock on the farm. The farm business has 396 cows in milk with 280 followers and replacements over 700 acres or thereabouts of mixed arable and grassland.

2.0 FARM BUSINESS ENTERPRISE

The applicants have dairy enterprise comprising the following:

396 cows in milk which are milked twice daily by the applicant.

280 youngstock from calves to bulling heifers.

3.0 LAND

The applicants farm over 700 acres or thereabouts of mixed grassland and arable land, the applicants own 600 acres and rent a further 100 acres or thereabouts.

4.0 PROPOSED BUILDING DESIGN

The proposed building will be used as a livestock housing building; the proposed building will be used to house the dairy youngstock and will be of portal frame construction. The building will measure 100ft x 40ft and have an eaves height of 15ft, the building will be open fronted to the eastern elevation with a feed passage along the front. The building will have two access doors on either gable to allow a passageway to clean the building out. The western elevation will have concrete panels too two meters in height with Yorkshire boarding thereafter to the eaves.

The proposed building is designed to allow the best possible ventilation and living conditions for the livestock housed inside the building. The building will provide the highest health and welfare standards for the livestock.

6.0 DEFRA CODES OF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE WELFARE OF LIVESTOCK – CATTLE

It is evident from the 'DEFRA Codes of Recommendations for the Welfare of Livestock – Cattle' that the housing of cattle is of the highest importance especially for young calves and breeding stock.

The young calves require a clean and well-ventilated environment to be raised to help prevent illness and disease, this will help ensure they have the best start possible in life. Calves that have disease or illness at a young age require extra attention throughout life, therefore the housing which will include isolation pens will help prevent and treat livestock with health issues.

7.0 SAFE HANDLING OF LIVESTOCK

Livestock handling is paramount for the safety of the livestock and the handler. The proposed building will provide the safest handling facilities for both livestock and handler. Based on the Agriculture, forestry and fishing statistics in Great Britain, 2025 11% of non-fatal injuries were livestock handling related. Fatal injuries were also at 11% caused by livestock. The proposed building aims to eliminate injuries as much as possible by providing safe handling facilities within the building.

8.0 SITING AND ACCESS

The proposed siting of the building is in keeping with the existing buildings onsite and locally. There will be minimal visual impact to the surrounding environment, and the building will be partially screened by existing buildings onsite.

There is an existing access to the site which is suitable for the agricultural traffic to access and egress the building. It is therefore considered that no further consultation with highways will be necessary.

9.0 CURRENT BUILDINGS

There are several portal frame agricultural buildings onsite which are all currently utilised for agricultural purposes, there is no purpose built youngstock housing onsite that is suitable. The animal health and welfare standards are ever increasing, and the applicants have made the decision to invest in a new purpose-built building solely to house the youngstock to maintain and enhance the health and welfare standards of the herd.

10.0 SUMMARY

- The applicants have a need for the proposed agricultural building
- The building is in-keeping with existing buildings onsite and locally.
- The proposed building will have great benefit to the applicant's farm business enterprise.
- The building will help to promote the longevity of the farm business enterprise.
- The proposed building will provide vital housing for the young and vulnerable calves and breeding stock.