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HS

DESIGN AND ACCESS

PROPOSED NEW MANURE STORE
AT VILLAGE FARM
AND CHURCH FARM

TW THOMPSON AND SONS
CHURCH FARM
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INTRODUCTION

Existing Church and Village farm has a total of 242 Ha with a mixture of arable land with temporary and permanent grassland. There are 100 suckler cows and calves (at village farm) with a total 10,000 bed and breakfast pigs taken in annually. 800 are being reared at village farm at any one time. The pigs are moved in and out on a ten to eleven week cycle and at each time after been collected from site the pens are then mucked out before a new batch arrives.

Currently muck from the pigs is stored outside in middens either on either a concrete base , hardcore pads or field heaps all of which are close to the livestock buildings . The cattle stores are mucked out yearly .

PROPOSAL

The proposed planning application to both Hambleton District Council and North Yorkshire Moors National park is for new steel portal frame buildings for the purpose of manure storage.

The proposal is in co-ordination with NATURAL ENGLAND to maximise country stewardship and sensitive farming . It is identified that both village farm and church farm are within the national character areas NCA24 and NCA25 and also that the site and farm area is within a drinking water safeguard zone.

With both cattle and pigs housed at both sites it has been recommended that a covered enclosed building to prevent surface water run off would be beneficial to the existing farm practice of having open air middens.

There is a risk at both sites that nutrients from the muck can reach the water course via surface water run off. Phosphate in particular being an substance that can easily reach a water course . Church farm being very close to Kilburn beck.

MANURE STORE

Both buildings proposed to house the manure are of a steel portal frame design .

Materials will include grey cement fibre to the roof , traditional timber Yorkshire boarding to the sides and gable with 2m high concrete panels to the base of the walls. The general design being a traditional type of building associated with the area. The revised building at village farm is 27.4m x 18.2m , eaves height is 5.5m and ridge height 7.95m. The building size being accommodating for modern farm handling equipment.

The siting of the proposed building at village farm is within the existing farm stead adjacent to the existing livestock building. The proposed building site would have the benefit of being screened by the existing trees ,bushes and hedge and not having any major visual effect to the country side landscape.

In addition to the proposed building we propose to collect surface water which will be re cycled and used for stock consumption.

MANAGEMENT AND STORAGE OF MUCK

The proposal would be to dry store muck at both village and church farm instead of having open air middens. There will be no additional volume of manure only what is produced at the moment. It is possible that some manure can be stored up to 50weeks .

Approximate quantity of muck that is produced at village farm is 1500 tonnes

And church farm 2500 tonnes

Pig buildings will be mucked out on a 10 to 11 week cycle as currant

Cattle building mucked out yearly

Both of the above as currant farm operations.

Spreading of muck on farm land is once a year just after harvest , the land then being deep ploughed.

Only muck produced from the existing livestock buildings will be stored on site. There will be no additional manure imported from other sites .

The proposed manure store is located on land which is already used for manure storage and storing in a building would not be an intensification which would have an impact on residential premises.

ACCESS AND TRAFFIC

The existing access to the farm stead would be used . Our proposal would not increase the volume of agricultural traffic and will remain exactly the same as currant farm management operations.

There would be no additional noise.

FLY MANAGEMENT

In conjunction with the environmental agency and the fly management report dated April 2013 we confirm the following

The root cause of fly problems is such as wet manure, poor ventilation, insufficient cover from rain and inappropriate pesticide control.

Pig manure itself is naturally a dry material (pigs are a very clean animal) this its self prohibits the breeding of flies . However it is intended to incorporate "pest management plan" which is to be adopted.

PEST MANAGEMENT PLAN

1) Staff to be trained in key areas identifying the significance of flies using control techniques and waste rejection procedures.
2) Monitor fly numbers and the extent of breeding sites
3) Select and implement the most appropriate long term fly prevention methods, such as drying or removing manure, confining or covering waste material and using predators.
4) Select appropriate insecticidal fly control techniques, bearing in mind the need to minimise the impact of resistance, and the impact on beneficial organisms.
5) Decide the trigger level in fly populations for pesticide treatments based on the timing of any complaints
6) Regularly review effectiveness of the fly control methods.

CONCLUSION

We hope we have clearly identified the need for the proposed manure stores which is justified and backed by Natural England to protect the environment.

The open air storage of manure at both farms has occurred for many years with few complaints over odour or from flies, farms are part of villages and support the local community along side other business in the area.

The incentive to amend the currant storage of manure to an enclosed building is in the interest of everyone, wildlife, watercourses and of benefit within a "Dinking Water Protection Zone".

The proposal is compliant with policy C4. The revised building siting at village farm having minimal impact on the landscape and visual amenity.