

Requirements of Accommodation  
Plainsides Farm

Plainsides farm is a family owned farm. The main owner is Alf Watson with his daughters Kathryn Watson and Jennifer Watson being part owners.

Farm Total size:- 120 acres  
Broken down into:- Grass 80 acres  
Arable 40 acres

The farm classes as a mixed dairy farm with 53 milking cows and around 30 followers.

Cows are milked twice a day for a milk contract. Cows calve all year round for replacement and fattening cattle.

We are self sufficient and don't use contractors. Silage is grown to feed cattle & hay to feed young stock. Wheat and barley is grown for straw to bed cattle on during winter housing, and the corn crop is used for feed..

The farm is run and worked by Alf Watson and daughter Kathryn.

Kathryn is required to be on the farm to look after cattle, help with calving & milking along with paperwork & tractor driving.

Daily jobs can be broken down into the following:-

Milking 3 ½ hours x twice a day  
Feeding up 1 hour x twice a day

The main arable jobs start in early spring through until late autumn, jobs include:- chain harrowing & rolling, fertilized & muck spreading, crop spraying, silage 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> cut, hay making, harvesting, ploughing & drilling.

There is also continuous maintenance jobs including buildings, machinery, fencing, drainage etc.

Office work averages out to around 1 hour a day.

Alf has just turned 60 and is needing more help to keep on top of jobs. Kathryn's partner, Darren, does a lot of maintenance of machinery & arable work but he currently lives 25 miles away.

We would like to live on site from a health and safety point of view, Alf is a lone worker and works a lot of hours, from 6.30am to 9pm (normally later), we are also concerned from a security point of view as rural crime is ever increasing. We would also like to reduce his work load and feel this will be easier if Darren can move in and we live on site as opposing to Kathryn moving out as there is very little affordable housing in the area and we would probably have to travel.

