

Planning Application for a new Agricultural barn at Pondtail Wood, Muddleswood Road, Albourne, West Sussex, BN6 9EB

Noise impact statement

During the preparation of the plans and positioning of the proposed new building, careful consideration has been given to any activities which generate noise.

Activities which would likely cause any disturbance have been highlighted in the accompanying Ecology report and advice has been provided by the Ecologists on how we can reduce any impact on the local and immediate environment whether it be through noise, physical obstruction or damage to existing habitats.

With regard to the installation of the building, the design and construction method has been selected to allow for as much off-site assembly as is possible. The steel frame for the structure and the external wall and roof panels will be prepared by the manufacturer with only final assembly taking place at the application address. This will reduce the amount of construction disturbance that the proposal would cause and also reduce the number of visits to site.

There are further works required to complete the buildings external wall and appearance which include the final cladding of vertical timber boarding which will be sourced and sawn on site. This will involve the use of a mobile sawmill which will be used on the site to prepare the materials required. This should however only involve the use of any noise creating equipment for an estimated 4 days (or equivalent number of hours).

Once complete, the structure will be used for the safe and secure storage of the equipment required to continue the repair and management of the woodland. A 10 year felling licence has been granted on the site along with a comprehensive woodland management plan which will see the ongoing regeneration of the area to boost tree, plant and wildlife habitats.

These ongoing works within the woodland will only operate on a seasonal basis and when suitable weather allows. The felling licence will permit the selective clearing of the poorer quality trees, allowing the stronger and healthier specimens to thrive, along with the areas of forest floor opened up to the sunlight. Hand tools and hand held machines such as chainsaws will be used during these works and to reduce noise impact we will be using battery operated tools as far is practically possible. Battery operated chainsaws and clearance tools do not require the use of petrol engines so will create far less noise disturbance.

Limited electricity will be required for the maintenance of equipment and the main power supply for the proposed building will be via the 12 solar panels mounted on the south facing side of the roof. A majority of the maintenance tasks simply require adequate lighting within the barn but on occasions when any further works are necessary or noise created, the building can be enclosed with the manually operated and insulated roller shutter doors.

Throughout all of the construction works and future use of the building, care will be taken to minimise the impact of noise or disturbance to neighbouring land owners/residents. It must however be noted that the site leads directly off the B2117 Muddleswood Road which is a busy section of carriageway. There are also neighbouring farms, vineyards, a busy golf club and the A23 which all generate their own levels of noise disturbance.