

JUSTIFICATION STATEMENT

Applicant:

Messrs AM & SA Binns & Sons
Bungalow Farm
Clint
Harrogate
HG3 3DU

Property

Hampsthwaite House Farm
Graystone Plain Lane
Hampsthwaite
Harrogate
HG3 2HS

Agent:

Andrew Hardcastle
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Details of Land Farmed:

Area Owned:	331.85	acres
Area Tenanted:	0	acres
Grazing Lets:	300.00	<u>acres</u>
Total Land:	631.85	acres

Consisting of:

Arable:	176.47	acres
Meadow land:	250.00	acres
Pasture land:	204.88	acres
Woodland:	0.50	acres

Details of Livestock:

[REDACTED]

Details of Arable Crops:

Winter Barley	126.47	acres
Spring Barley	20.00	acres
Winter Wheat	20.00	acres
Stubble Turnips	15.00	acres
Potatoes	10.00	acres

Existing Farm Buildings:

Existing silage clamp	650 sqm
Cattle Shed	1094 sqm
Cattle Shed	460 sqm
Grain Store	750 sqm
Cattle Shed	672 sqm
Machinery Shed	378 sqm
Straw Shed	820 sqm
Cattle Shed	323 sqm

Summary of Existing Farming Business

The family run farm operate a mixed beef, sheep and arable far based around a traditional arable rotation with a small amount of root crops and an extensive area of grassland. The farming business extends to some 631 acres, the majority of which is grassland used for grazing and silage to conserve grass forage for winter. The arable land is cropped mainly with winter and spring cereals which are harvested with the grain used to feed stock over winter and the straw stored and used for winter bedding.

The beef herd consists of purchased beef calves which are reared to finished cattle and sold through local marts. They are grazed during summer and fed on grass silage and home grown cereals through winter months.

The sheep flock is a commercial flock of lowland breeding ewes lambing in March-April with the lambs reared to fat and sold through local marts.

Reasons for proposed development

The manure from the existing agricultural operations is currently stored in field heaps before being spread on land as a fertiliser and soil conditioner. The storing of manure in field heaps has the potential to lead to groundwater pollution through percolation of effluent as well as diffuse and point source pollution through overland flow of dirty water, slurry and effluent from the stores. The holding is looking to make more efficient use of manures given recent substantial rises in fertiliser costs.

The holding is located in a high priority area for water quality and much of the farmland adjoins either the river Nidd or Cockhill Beck, a tributary of the Nidd. The soil type is predominantly clay based loams over a clay or gravel sub-stratum giving the risk of pollution from field heaps, both to groundwater and surface water.

The proposal is supported by the Catchment Sensitive Farming Officer for the area and the Environment Agency. The proposal will ensure effluent and dirty water from the store can be contained and used as fertiliser and the rainwater excluded from the store which will lead to a reduction in leaching and higher fertiliser value of the stored manure.

The roofing over of the manure store will also reduce ammonia emissions from the manure, improving both the local environment and reducing odours from the holding.

Reasons for Materials, Design & Construction

The steel portal frame design allows for quick and easy construction and provides a good safe storage area clear of internal divides. The use of concrete panels allow for a strong supporting structure which can both contain materials and exclude people and livestock. Concrete is easily cleaned to allow for hygienic conditions.

Yorkshire board timber cladding allows for ventilation while preventing much of the prevailing weather entering the building. The construction is cost effective and provides secure storage.

The use of fibre cement roof sheets allows for cost effective construction which provides a long lasting strong material suitable for agricultural storage.

[REDACTED]

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Date: 8 March 2022