

29 January 2025

Development Control
Hickley and Bosworth Borough Council
Hinckley Hub
Rugby Road
Hinckley
LE10 0FR



Dear Sirs

**28 DAY NOTICE APPLICATION – PROPOSED AGRICULTURAL BUILDING AT STOKEFIELDS FARM,
HINCKLEY ROAD, STOKE GOLDING, LEICESTERSHIRE, CV13 6HR**

I am writing further to the above application submitted on behalf of Mr Guy and Mrs Katie Stripp.

Stokefields Farm extends to 5.3 acres (13 acres) and has been owned by the applicants for the past 5 years. When they purchased the holding it had been derelict for 3 years and they subsequently tidied up the fields and obtained planning permission in February 2023 to increase the farmhouse, including change of use of 2 linked barns to form part of the living area.

The land is down to grass for hay which is sold from the farm. The applicants also cut and bale hay at another farm which is carted back to Stokefields Farm and sold on. They are planning to increase the farm business this year by introducing sheep and cattle to graze the land, which will arrive on site in the spring and sent to slaughter in the autumn to be sold in local farm shops.

The holding lacks modern agricultural buildings and is therefore proposed to erect a 30 metre x 15 metre hay and fodder barn with eaves and ridge heights of 5 metres and 7 metres respectively. The barn will be of steel framed constructed, enclosed to three sides with profiled plastisol steel sheeting and open to the gable end, which will be accessed from existing hardstanding. The roof will be fibre cement sheeting.

Hay is at its most valuable during the winter months and into the following Spring. Hay stored outside is not practical as higher bales in the stack can be spoiled due to weather and the lower bales to moisture ingress and pests. More than 25% can often be wasted even if covered. The proposed building will allow for all hay produced on the holding to be stored. Fodder for the animals also needs to be stored undercover.

The building will be sited adjacent an existing tarmac area which is 25 metres to the road.

The proposed hay barn is reasonably necessary for the purposes of an agricultural trade or business.



Should you have any queries then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully



LOUISE GREGORY
Rural Planning
Acorus Rural Property Services Ltd