

DESIGN ACCESS STATEMENT

FOR A NEW SLURRY STORE AT GUNTHWAITE HALL FARM

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DESIGN ACCESS STATEMENT

The following statement will endeavour to present information with regard to the application for a new slurry store at Gunthwaite Hall Farm, Penistone, the property of JR & JE Griffiths.

This statement provides a brief outline of the required points with regard to how this application has been submitted and the basis of submission.

I. Assessment

This particular application as stated is for a new slurry store.

I.1. Physical Context

Gunthwaite Hall Farm is on Gunthwaite Lane outside the village of Upper Denby. The farmstead is situated on both sides on Gunthwaite Lane. The modern farm buildings are to the North East side of the lane with the range of traditional buildings on the opposite side.

The total area of land farmed by JR & JE Griffiths extends to approximately 300 acres (121.4 ha) of which 150 acres (60.7 ha) surrounds Gunthwaite Hall Farm (see location plan). The remaining land is within 6 miles of the application site and is occupied on a 15 year Farm Business Tenancy.

I.2. Social Context

The development will have minimum effect on people in the locality due to its rural location and integrated setting being within a well-established farmstead and adjacent to existing agricultural buildings.

I.3. Economic Context

The proposed slurry storage tank is a necessary investment in the farm business. The current storage facility does not provide adequate capacity for the number of livestock. The provision of a new slurry storage tank is natural progression for this family business in line with nitrogen storage and application advice.

The development will improve nitrogen use efficiency and therefore sustainability of the farming unit to sustain it for future generations. The applicants will be able to make more efficient use of natural fertiliser and reduce the reliance on bought in artificial nitrogen fertiliser.

In line with emerging government guidance, there is a requirement to have enough storage capacity for 6 months of the year. The proposed store will also be covered, in line with government guidelines. The cover will reduce surface water dilution and ammonia release. The applicants have applied for a grant under the Slurry Infrastructure Grant for the proposed development.

2. **Design**

The design of the slurry store has taken into account the layout of the existing livestock and farm buildings as well as the requirements of a growing family business. The slurry store will be constructed of pre-cast concrete panels to form the walls. The floor will be a concrete pad.

3. **Use**

The proposed construction will be used for the storage of cattle slurry produced by the high yielding dairy herd. The slurry will be applied to the surrounding farm land as and when required.

4. **Amount**

This is for one above ground slurry store.

5. **Layout**

The proposed slurry store is to be located adjacent to the cattle shed where the milking herd is housed. Being adjacent to the shed allows for the slurry to be pumped into the proposed tower for storage before use. The location also takes into account access with a tractor to utilise the slurry as a fertiliser.

6. **Scale**

The proposed tower will be a cylinder constructed of concrete panels measuring 4m in height with a diameter of 32m.

7. **Appearance**

The appearance of the development will be in keeping with the current appearance of the farm buildings.