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BMBC planning Services
PO box 604
Barnsley
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Dear Sirs,

Little Doubting Farm

I enclose an application to extend an egg production unit at the above site. The current production unit houses free range chickens, six thousand in number, producing high quality food, generally sold to supermarket operators and other outlets.

The current building will be extended to allow for a further 4000 birds in the same material and same coordinated style. The current production unit has attracted no complaints over several years of operation and has received praise and support from neighbours for its simple attractive form set against a woodland background which further reduces its visual impact.

There are no new traffic implications for the increase. The same number of vehicles to collect the eggs and deliver chicken feed will not have more frequent journeys but simply increase the number of eggs carried on collection and more feed in volume will be delivered on the same vehicles.

Food delivery on 6 wheeled vehicles will be no more than 2 per week. Eggs will be collected twice per week. The existing access already agreed will be used for the extension.

The chickens roam free during the day. They are on a 12 month cycle of production before being replaced by new chickens. The building is then cleaned out before production starts annually.

The building does not produce machinery noise or odour and the extension is also even further away from neighbours who have no objections to the current situation which operates successfully.

The existing buildings (which comprise 70% of the total build proposed) meet all requires LA standards for public health and operate under strict RSPCA welfare standards and other standards, principally the Lion code and others required by retailers.

The proposal is not a new development but simply an extension to a production unit which had the support of the planning Inspectorate in 2009 who concluded the unit was sound in environmental and planning terms.

The NPPF supports agricultural buildings (para 89 section 9) in Green Belt and there should be no policy objections to this increase which will create economic activity and employment within the Borough.

The birds will be replaced shortly and the new flock will require a new building by May 2016 so there is urgency for this new initiative which I hope can be addressed by the Department.

Yours faithfully

