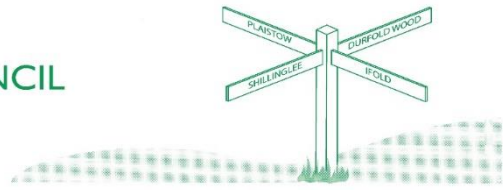


# PLAISTOW AND IFOLD PARISH COUNCIL



15<sup>th</sup> August 2022

Nicola Martin  
Senior Planning Officer  
Chichester District Council

Sent via email: [nmartin@chichester.gov.uk](mailto:nmartin@chichester.gov.uk)

Dear Ms Martin,

**Re: 22/01735/FULEIA | Regeneration of Crouchlands Farm, Rickmans Lane Plaistow Billingshurst West Sussex RH14 0LE**

I am writing to update you on progress regarding Plaistow and Ifold Parish Council's consideration of this application and to confirm that an Extraordinary Meeting of the Council will be held in September at which time the Parish Council will determine its response.

In the meantime, and in the spirit of our email exchange, it would seem correct to raise questions as and when they arise to allow the Applicant an opportunity to respond, should they so wish.

The first such question relates to the absence of any Agricultural Appraisal and Needs Assessment.

The Parish Council notes that the Applicant has previously applied for essential temporary residential accommodation for agricultural farm workers at the farm. No accommodation appears to have been included within the Whole Farm Plan, albeit that the livestock numbers appear to have increased. The Parish Council presume this to be an oversight.

The application documents note that the Farm Hub will provide the overwintering accommodation for livestock. The Parish Council would suggest that an Agricultural Assessment would be required to determine the area of floor space required to provide the high welfare winter accommodation.

It has been noted that the Rural Food and Retail Centre would be utilised to sell produce, including organic food and beverage, which would be subject to on site production. It is unclear as to whether "on site production" means grown/ reared on site or grown/ reared in other locations and brought to the application site for industrial processing and packaging. The Parish Council requests clarification on this matter particularly, as it has previously understood CDC's policy to require a high proportion of the goods sold on the Farm to have been "produced" on the Farm. The Parish Council would suggest that a clear statement as to the Applicant's intent and a definition of the term "produced on the Farm"

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would be useful.

The Parish Council's understanding would be that such goods would need to have been either grown or reared on site for a minimum period of time. The Parish Council would therefore expect that an Agricultural Appraisal of the Farm would establish what produce can reasonably be expected to be grown/reared on site. Likewise, an Agricultural Appraisal would demonstrate the farm facilities required to facilitate the agricultural operation of growing/rearing, harvesting and storage of such produce to adequately stock the Rural Food and Retail Centre with the high percentage required, and also provide produce for use in the Cafe, Cookery School and Glamping Restaurant, as indicated in the application documents.

In conclusion, the Parish Council suggests that an Agricultural Appraisal and Needs Assessment would be necessary to understand the continuing primary operation of the Farm and the facilities and resources that would be necessary to support this operation.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Catherine Nutting', with a small dot at the end.

Catherine Nutting  
Clerk & RFO of Plaistow and Ifold Parish Council