

Received 8/2/16

R & C MELLOR LTD

1 Grange Farm,
Lynn Road,
Crimpleham,
Norfolk
PE33 9ED
22/01/2016

Dear West Dereham Parish Council,

In response to your letter dated 10th January 2016 we would like to say that we had given you numerous dates last year which you were unable to attend because of holiday commitments. You then decided it would be better if you gave us dates so I requested them not to be from the end of July or anytime in August as this is harvest time but unfortunately they came back between these dates so I agreed the 21st August but I did state this may have to be cancelled at short notice as we may be harvesting and sure enough we were so I had to cancel. I then didn't receive an email until late November requesting dates over the next 2 – 3 weeks. As we are a working farm we do not have the privilege of time off over Christmas and with the weather being so wet we were very busy so this was obviously not a good time for a visit.

After a meeting with Elizabeth Truss MP in 2014, who informed us that we have done nothing wrong and in fact praised us for the hard work we had done over the past year to turnaround the farm and make it clean, tidy and a pleasure to drive past. She also told us that by law we do not have to answer your questions but we have decided to and they are attached.

We produce British pork in an environment that we feel is the best for our animals. We also bring jobs to the area by employing 4 local people. If this was just an arable farm we wouldn't be employing anyone else.

We would like this letter and answered questions read out at your next meeting and added in the minutes for all parishioners to read.

I have one question for West Dereham Parish Council.

How have the pigs affected West Dereham since they arrived?

I would like a response in writing within 14 days.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Charlotte Mellor



Director/Secretary



Grange Farm questions relating to Pig Farming

1. How many pigs will there be on how many acres?

Stocking density is in line with the limit set by DEFRA.

2. What will be the rotation?

All fields are on a different rotation. The main crops are Pigs and Cereals.

3. What will happen to the waste?

I presume by waste you mean Manure then this will be spread on the land within the farm holding.

4. What are the plans for drainage?

We leave a grass buffer strips around the edge of the field for run off.

5. What about smell, dust mites and flies? (We understand that there have been problems with this in Eastmoor/Oxborough).

N/A

I believe these to be indoor units.

6. Will there be burning of straw?

We hold a Waste Exemption D7 – Burning waste in the open.

7. Will there be effluent traps?

N/A (indoor units)

8. Lime Kiln Road is a single track lane so what about vehicle movements? What type of machinery will be used, size, frequency, function, timing and noise?

We are a working farm using public roads to conduct our everyday work, just the same as everybody else.

What type of machinery will be used? Farm machinery

Size - Various

Frequency – When we need to work

Function - Farming

Timing – When we need to work

Noise – As loud as farm machinery

9. What will happen to the grass on the fields?

If you mean the permanent pasture fields then they obviously will not have pigs on them.

10. What are the rules relating to proximity to children playing and camping?

Defra have no rules relating to children playing and camping near the pigs but they were more concerned about the children throwing food into the field for the pigs. This is an issue we will have to address.