Water Neutrality Statement for Planning Application reference DC/24/1862

Introduction:

The following statement outlines the water neutrality strategy providing evidence of no increase in water consumption related to the above GPDO application . In fact, the introduction of water harvesting from the barn downpipes provides a net gain in water availability. The statement is prepared in support of and as a condition of application DC/24/1862. Prior notification for the erection of a new agricultural storage barn. Land West of Trickles Wood Hole Street Ashington West Sussex

Background:

The land known as “Land West of Trickles Wood Hole Street Ashington West Sussex RH20 3DE” is a 5.6 hectare plot of class 3 arable land suitable only for grazing. This land originally formed part of the Wiston Estate Farm used for sheep rearing since mid 1800’s. The land benefited from a wooden barn built circa 1930. We purchased the land in 2024 with the purpose of raising sheep and cattle as a sustainable business providing a small income in our retirement. To provide storage for animal feed and farm machinery it is necessary to replace the dilapidated barn with a modern structure.

Baseline Calculations:

Reference guidelines based on figures provided by The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs:-

Growing Beef Cattle – 24 -36 litres per day per head.

Sheep 10 litres per day per head.

Daily consumption: - 12 Growing Beef Cattle – 288 to 432 litres per day

12 sheep - 120 litres per day

General consumption: - cleaning plant/equipment- 50 litres per day

Total daily consumption between 458 and 602 litres per day

Proposal Demand:

Daily consumption:- 12 Growing Beef Cattle – 288 to 432 litres per day

12 sheep - 120 litres per day

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Total daily consumption between 458 and 602 litres per day

Water reduction measures:

The addition of rainwater collection butts to be placed on each downpipe.

Based on average annual rainfall of 1000mm and the roof area 144 m2 enabling 5% catchment would require two 5000 ltr collection tanks.

Potentially 10,000 ltrs would be available for cleaning plant and equipment as a net gain.

Conclusion:

The introduction of a new storage barn provides opportunity to reduce the daily consumption of mains water. The addition of rainwater harvesting tanks combined with a portable pump can replace the need for mains water when cleaning plant and equipment.