

The Planning Department
Horsham District Council
Albery House
Springfield Road
Horsham
RH12 2GB

04 August 2026

Dear Sirs

RE: 28 DAY NOTICE PRIOR APPROVAL APPLICATION FOR PROPOSED AGRICULTURAL BUILDING AT HURLANDS, THE HAVEN, BILLINGSHURST, WEST SUSSEX, RH14 9BE

I am writing further to the above application.

Hurlands, The Haven, Billingshurst extends to 5.75 hectares (14.2 acres) and is owned by the applicant, Mr Mark Bellinger.

There are currently pigs and chickens on the holding as well as a horticultural enterprise with over 1,000 eucalyptus trees which produce stems for floristry. Mr Bellinger intends to introduce sheep to the holding.

There are no buildings available on the holding for the secure storage of machinery and equipment which include 2 tractors, 2 trailers, rotavator, flail and roller etc. The eucalyptus stems also have to be stored inside in a cool environment until sold. Hay for the sheep enterprise will also need to be stored undercover.

Hay bales are currently having to be stored covered outside, which can mean bales in the stack can be spoiled due to weather with the lower bales subject to moisture ingress and pests. More than 25% can often be wasted. There is also nowhere for machinery used for maintenance of the land. The eucalyptus stems need to be stored undercover, so they do not get damaged and deteriorate especially in hot weather.

Prior approval was applied for and granted in December 2022 for an 18.295 metres x 12 metres steel portal framed building with eaves and ridge heights of 5 metres and 6.64 metres respectively. Two of the four bays were to be enclosed to provide secure lockable storage for machinery and equipment used on the holding with the other 2 bays being open for hay storage – Ref: DC/22/2274.

The applicant is now looking at constructing the building, however due to the increasing inclement weather, particularly during the winter months, it is now proposed to fully enclose the building. The size and siting of the building will remain the same as that of the approved application.

The building will be clad in profiled steel sheeting with a fibre cement roof. It will be sited to the southern boundary of the site which is well screened with mature hedgerows.

The proposal is for an agricultural building to support an agricultural trade or business on a unit totalling more than 5 hectares. It will be sited more than 25 metres away from a classified road, therefore permitted development can be utilised. This is a resubmission of an existing approval which simply looks to fully enclose the building.

Should you have any queries then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

Louise Gregory

LOUISE GREGORY
Rural Planning
Acorus Rural Property Services Ltd