

Planning application comment was submitted on the **26 February 2025 09:50 AM**

The following is a comment on application **P243176/F** by **Ali Parker**

**Nature of feedback: Support the application**

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**Comment:** Please see attached letter which outlines reasons for supporting this application.

**Attachment:**

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Their contact details are as follows:

**First name:** Ali

**Last name:** Parker

**Email:** [REDACTED]

**Postcode:** hr1 3al

**Address:** The Lilies, Shelwick, HR1 3AL

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**Infrastructure from section 106 to consider:** None

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Link ID: [https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/info/200142/planning\\_services/planning\\_application\\_search/details?id=243176](https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/info/200142/planning_services/planning_application_search/details?id=243176)

Form reference: FS-Case-690863385



Email: [REDACTED]  
Direct line: [REDACTED]  
Date: 24/02/2025

Dear Sir/Madam,

**P243176/F – Planning application for the erection of an agricultural building on agricultural land at Wellbrook Lane, Peterchurch, Herefordshire.**

Our members, Mr & Mrs Boaz, are applying for planning permission to build an agricultural building, situated on agricultural land, to ensure the future of their farming business. This building is critical for Mr & Mrs Boaz as their longstanding tenancy has ended leaving them without any buildings going forwards to operate their business. Erecting a building on the agricultural land they own will provide the necessary infrastructure they need to continue business as usual for their livestock enterprise.

While we do not comment on the site specific aspects of this proposal, we are extremely supportive of farmers who invest in new infrastructure which will enable them to develop sustainable farm businesses. The holding in question has no specific agricultural buildings, so in this instance the building is essential. Given the end of Mr & Mrs Boaz's tenancy, they must prepare their business for the future which is exactly what they are seeking to do.

This building will enable the storage of winter fodder for livestock, reducing the need to transport it from other areas. It is essential that forage is stored in secure, clean and dry conditions. There is also a functional need for this from an environmental perspective, as there would be a negative impact on soils should heavy machinery be needed to transport supplies on a daily basis out to cattle in the field during the continuous wet weather, and water-logged fields, we are often faced with in this country. The building will also be used to store equipment and implements associated with animal welfare requirements which need to remain near livestock. Additionally, cattle will be housed in this building over winter which is an important agricultural practice to protect soil structure. During the months of heavy rainfall, heavy cattle on wet fields can significantly damage the soil structure, creating pits for more water to collect and ruining the grass.

The applicant has also carried out air quality, biodiversity net gain and ecological assessments, in addition to an extensive drainage plan, which all provide assurances this development will not negatively impact the environment or surrounding residents.

In this case the application will meet the requirements within the National Planning Policy Framework, paragraph 88, as this development will enable "the sustainable growth and expansion of all types of business in rural areas, both through conversion of existing buildings and well-designed new buildings". The rural economy will benefit from this development as it will secure the future of a farming business.

It is a fact that farming is the bedrock of the food and drink sector which supplies over £113 billion to the national economy. In Herefordshire, total income from farming is around £80 million, and

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nearly 10% of the county's workforce work directly on farms. By supporting applications such as this by Mr & Mrs Boaz the sector will continue moving forward to benefit Herefordshire and the country as a whole.

The NFU therefore supports the plan to build an agricultural building on agricultural land at Wellbrook Road as it will safeguard rural businesses, diversify the local economy, and contribute towards national goals for an agricultural system that places environmental and climate ambitions at its heart. It is clear that the need for this agricultural building, including the benefits it will bring in terms of environmental impacts and securing the future of a business, far out way the small impact it may have on the nearby dwellings.

Yours Sincerely,

Ali Parker  
Herefordshire County Adviser  
NFU Midlands