

# P & G Howard & Sons

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The Head of Public Protection and Development Management  
Cherwell District Council  
Bodicote House  
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OX15 4AA

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26<sup>th</sup> December 2018

Dear Sir/Madam,

## **The Farrowing House Barn, College Farm, Wendlebury, Bicester, Oxfordshire OX25 2PR**

We are writing to confirm the uses to which the Farrowing House Barn has been put during our occupation of College Farm, Wendlebury.

I have lived at Larkhill Cottage, and worked on College Farm since 1985. My wife moved here too when we were married in 1987. My father built the farrowing house barn in 1965 along with other pig breeding and rearing buildings. The 'pig unit' operated until 1984. During this time breeding pigs farrowed in this building with piglets reared on in adjacent barns for bacon production.

When we stopped farming pigs here in 1984, we then reared dairy replacement heifers for several years, using the farrowing house barn for calves. The ventilation was insufficient for calf rearing, requiring much larger window openings to avoid pneumonia associated with poorly ventilated buildings. The openings were never enlarged as the barn assumed the role of storage of farm equipment, tools, general materials for farm use and animal feedstuffs. When we started the dairy unit on the farm 1989 the barn continued in this role. We were struck with BSE and stopped dairying and diversified into sheep, sucklers, horses and free range hens. During this time, and specifically since 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2012, and up unto the present day the barn has continually remained useful for the storage of similar agricultural materials, farm equipment and animal feed.

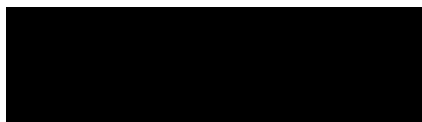
The farming operations are expected to remain broadly similar with the exception of the free range hens, which left the farm earlier this year and we will not be replacing them. These sheds are now empty, and once cleaned and the now redundant equipment removed, we propose utilising these former hen buildings as lambing sheds.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours faithfully,



Tim Howard



Holly Howard

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