Business outline for Peathills Farm

The Farm Land around Peathills has been registered with Defra and the RPA. We have been supplied with a holding number. Both my wife and I have also been issued with a unique identifier.

SBI	118821560
Holding No	09/141/0159
Vendor	573165

There are four distinct income areas which we plan to develop at Peathills.

Horse Breeding

We currently have three horses and 35 years of equine experience. One is a field companion and the other two are a breeding pair of British heritage horses. The area of land we plan to use for this is situated in front of the house and to the east of the track. It has been sectioned off into post and rail paddocks for this purpose. A small wooden stable block will be required; this would consist of three stables and one tack room. We will also require Solar panels to be fitted to the roof of the stable block. Given its south facing elevation, it should provide a significant contribution to the running costs of the farm.



Rearing of Norfolk Bronze free range turkeys

We have had some success over the last few years in breeding and rearing turkeys for our own consumption and also for friends and families.

It is our intention to use the land to the north of the property to create a penned area where the turkeys can roost at night. The heavily wooded “V” section of land lends itself to this. We will be looking to breed between 50 and 60 birds per year, currently we raise around 20. These will go to specialist abattoir that is licensed for white meat, based in Cheshire.

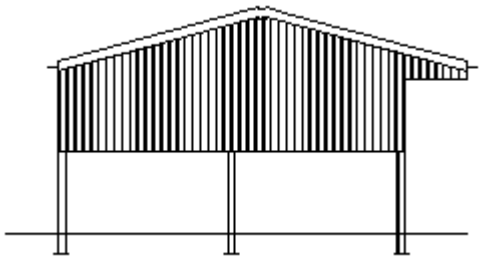
Rearing of Sheep

We are looking to establish a flock of around 10–15 sheep. These will be raised for our own consumption as well as for sale at Mettricks, a well known local butcher. The area of land to the front of the house and west of the track will be used for this and will be suitably fenced.

Horse Livery

In order to utilise the remaining land, we will be offering full time livery on a limited basis. This is where the owner of the horse pays us to feed and look after the horses' welfare full time. Owners' generally ride at weekends, due to their work and family commitments during the week. This means there would be very little traffic flow to the farm; this is in contrast to DIY livery where the owner has to attend to the horse every day.

We have had to look at a diverse farming structure in order to make the business viable. This way we are not reliant on any one product or income stream. In order for us to carry out the business we would require a farm building on the site. To house the sheep at lambing time, the Turkeys when they have laid and also the horse livery.



The unit in question would be 60 by 30 and wooden clad to lessen the impact on the surrounding area. This would be situated to the North of the house and would not be visible to the other dwellings.

We will also be fitting solar panels to this building as well to offset the costs of running the farm. The building will also be required to house the large amount of wood we will require, for the biomass boiler we are proposing to install. This will provide heating and hot water to the farm with no carbon impact on the environment.

We believe the plan we have in place will bring Peathills back to a working farm status, something it has not been for a number of years. We will be able to offer a small number of jobs to the local community and offer work placements for students, whilst keeping British Heritage breeds of sheep, Turkeys and Horses sustainable.