Office 4, Salisbury Auction Centre
Netherhampton Road
Salisbury
SP2 8RH

27th September 2023

Dear Sir or Madam,

RE: New field entrance at land at Bapton

Simon Bolton (the applicant) runs a local cattle farming business (Simon Bolton Limited). His main unit is rented agricultural buildings at Wylye. This is where his cattle are overwintered. However, he owns the land in question at Bapton. Simon has recently sought to extend his cattle business, in order to offset financial loss of income due to BPS removal. To do this, he is storing straw at the land at Bapton, so that he can overwinter a greater number of cattle. Over the winter this straw needs to be periodically moved, as needed, down the road to Wylye.

Therefore, as of this winter, this will mean a change in the regularity of use and access of the land at Bapton. Previously, the land was accessed rarely, and if it was, it was with a 4X4 vehicle only. The current entrance to the field has therefore been adequate. However, as of this winter, the land will have to be accessed more regularly, and when it is, it will be with a tractor and trailer.

Simon Bolton is therefore seeking approval for a new entrance to the land, further down the field from the current entrance (far South East corner), so that this access to the field will be safer. The current entrance is on the bend of the A303 slipway; it is therefore not suitable for regularly pulling out slower, longer vehicles.

Furthermore, the location of the current entrance will mean regularly driving across the field to access the Dutch barn where the straw is stored. This will mean poaching on agricultural land. The new proposed entrance will mean much more direct access to the barn, and therefore less damage to the land.

A 7.5 metre length of hedgerow will need to removed in order to accommodate the new metal 7 rail agricultural gate. This hedgerow is thought to be about 25 years old. In other areas of the field, particularly the North West corner, the hedges are very gappy. It is therefore suggested that Simon Bolton will undertake gapping up of the hedge in this area of the field, to more than offset the 7 metres removed in the South East corner. There will also need to be some hardcore laid to join to the slip way. This small strip of land is owned by the highways.

Yours sincerely,

Kirsty Finney

Rural Surveyor
John Woolley Ltd