

13.1.22

Objection to Planning Application A211093, Poultry Unit at Tynant

Dear Mr Pugh,

I wish to register a strong objection to the above planning application.

I wrote to Ceredigion Council in May 2020 to register an objection to the previous application, A190916. A copy of that objection is appended to this letter.

In 2020, I objected on six main grounds:


- 1) Visual Impact
- 2) Inadequate access for heavy goods vehicles
- 3) Marked increase in manure
- 4) Animal cruelty
- 5) Inappropriate location
- 6) Inappropriate for the Ceredigion economy

Comparing the two planning applications, the main change in the current application is that the applicant is going to solve the problem of excess manure production from the poultry units by storing the poultry manure on-site, and periodically sending it by lorry to a company in Penparc with an anaerobic digester unit for processing.

This change **does** address one of my six original objections; but it does so by **increasing** heavy goods vehicle traffic to and from the farm, which strengthens another of my original objections. The minor road from Talybont to Tynant Farm is narrow and twisty – totally unsuitable for the sort of lorry traffic which this poultry unit would engender if given approval. Furthermore, the site at Penparc is around 40 miles away from Tynant Farm, so if this proposal went ahead, it would increase lorry traffic through all those communities spread along the A487 in Ceredigion between Talybont and Penparc.

This current application also completely fails to address the other four original objections.

Yours sincerely



Christopher G.B. Simpson

Post-script: copy of original letter of objection

Objection to Planning Application A190916, Poultry Unit at Tynant, Talybont (31.5.20)

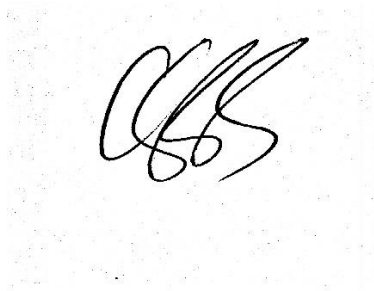
Dear Mr Eirug,

I wish to register a strong objection to the above planning application on the following grounds:

- 1) **Visual Impact:** the proposed sheds are very large and obtrusive; and way out of scale compared to other buildings in this picturesque valley.
- 2) **Inadequate access for heavy goods vehicles:** Tynant lies approximately 4km away from the main A487 in Talybont. The only access is a narrow C-class road. Allowing this application will result in a marked increase of lorry traffic along this narrow road, both during the building of the poultry unit and the continuing operation of the unit. These lorry journeys will make life difficult for other people living and working all along this valley down to, and including, Talybont itself.
- 3) **Marked Increase in manure:** the farm currently has 4,540 sheep and 142 cattle on its 1,027 hectares. The addition of 110,000 chickens will increase manure production by 42,900 kg of nitrogen – an increase of 162% over present manure production levels. Whilst accepting that the farmer will no longer need to buy in fertiliser for his fields, this marked increase in manure production will have a long-term negative impact on the farm environment, with a greatly increased risk of damaging run-off of manure and manure products into the local river system. (The volume of manure should be in proportion to the volume of grass produced by the farm when eaten by the sheep and cattle. Adding the manure from 110,000 chickens fed on food materials imported onto the farm from elsewhere destroys that natural balance between plant food production and manure production.)
- 4) **Animal Cruelty:** it is well recognised that industrial-scale chicken production like this proposed poultry unit causes much more cruelty to the chickens than traditional extensive systems, especially when compared to free-range chicken production. This animal cruelty is made worse by the increased transport distances which will be inevitable with a unit of this size.
- 5) **Inappropriate Location:** even if we accept that there is a place for industrial-scale poultry production in the UK, this is clearly the wrong place for such a unit. It is remote from most likely end-users (food retailers) and remote from any large-scale chicken slaughter unit. Therefore allowing this unit to be built will end up **increasing** carbon use at a time when Government policy is to reduce the UK carbon footprint.

6) **Inappropriate for the Ceredigion economy:** most people in Ceredigion support the idea of increasing local economic self-reliance, and welcome the idea of local food production for local consumption. So I welcome (for example) local free-range egg production units in Ceredigion where the eggs are produced locally and sold in local markets. This proposed poultry unit is, however, the polar opposite of this: it will rely on chicks brought in from out-of-county, food brought in from out-of-county, transport of mature birds to a slaughter facility out-of-county and finally, sales of the finished birds to large-scale food-processing companies. While 1-2% of the birds may end up on supermarket shelves in Ceredigion, this cannot in any way be counted as a contribution to the local economy.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'C.G.S.', enclosed within a rectangular border that has a light, dotted or textured background.

Christopher G.B. Simpson