LES ORMES FARM, FIELD 773, LA ROUTE DE LA BLANCHE PIERRE, ST. LAWRENCE: DEVELOPMENT IN THE GREEN ZONE

Lodged au Greffe on 6th June 2000 by the Planning and Environment Committee



STATES OF JERSEY

STATES GREFFE

180 2000 P.82

Price code: B

PROPOSITION

THE STATES are asked to decide whether they are of opinion -

to support the Planning and Environment Committee's intention to grant planning permission for the construction of an agricultural storage building with staff accommodation at Les Ormes Farm, Field 773, La Rue de la Blanche Pierre, St. Lawrence, (as shown on drawing No. 650/1) the land being situated within an area designated as Green Zone on the Island Map, as amended 1-87.

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

REPORT

1. Introduction

This report proposes that an exception should be made to the Green Zone policy to allow development required in connection with agriculture on Field 773 in the Parish of St. Lawrence.

The proposal is supported by the Agriculture and Fisheries Committee.

2. Details of proposal

The proposed shed and integral staff accommodation would be sited immediately to the east of the existing building group which comprises Les Ormes Farm on Field 773. The proposed building measuring 120ft long and 70ft wide would be used mainly for storage of seed and potatoes in climatically controlled conditions. Parts of the shed would be used for purpose-built staff accommodation. The new staff accommodation would replace existing sub-standard accommodation at the farm. After extensive investigations with the owner it has been found that this is the only suitable site on which to construct the new agricultural shed. The aim has been to ensure it is consolidated as much as possible with the existing working farm at Les Ormes. Its impact on the landscape has been minimised by reducing the existing ground levels and constructing around the building the 10ft high bank planted with indigenous species.

3. Agricultural circumstances

The building is required because the agricultural activities of the farm have increased and the existing storage shed is no longer adequate. The new shed would enable the storage of all seed potatoes in a fully insulated building. The integral construction of eight one-bedroom units would replace portacabins, which have been the result of objections from adjoining residential properties. Mr. Huelin farms approximately 400 vergées of land in various locations around the Island, of which 53 vergées are owned by Mr. Huelin. All the land farmed and owned by the families located around Les Ormes Farm is in the Green Zone. Having investigated the situation, the Committee considers that there is a case of proven agricultural need, and as such considered that an exception to policy CO2 of the Island Plan should be made. Despite receiving objections for the proposals from nearby properties, the Committee is of the opinion that given the site's location and surrounding area, coupled with appropriate landscape, there would not be an adverse impact on the character and appearance of the Green Zone in this area.