**For instructions to object to Cherry Tree scroll down**

**Background**

Cherry Tree Farm in Stow Bedon, Norfolk, is a pig factory farm owned by Wayland Farms under Cranswick, one of the UK’s largest pig producers, turning over £1.2 billion a year. Wayland is now seeking retrospective planning permission from Breckland Council for unauthorised alterations despite 12 environmental permit breaches and nearly 500 complaints to the Environment Agency (EA) about ammonia and odour pollution since 2021.

**What’s at Stake**If approved, this application sets a dangerous precedent, rewarding a major corporation for bypassing regulations, harming local health and wildlife and subjecting animals to extreme suffering.

If rejected, they will be forced to dismantle what they built without permission, halting expansion and sending a powerful message that factory farms cannot act with impunity.

**Public Power Works**The rejection of Cranswick’s proposed Methwold mega-farm, driven by 15,000 public objections, proved that collective resistance works. A win at Cherry Tree could trigger a domino effect, building legal precedent and public pressure to challenge factory farming nationwide.

**The Human Cost**Local residents are already suffering. Nose bleeds, sore eyes, nose and lungs and respiratory issues due to ammonia fumes. One resident was told by a GP that pregnancy would be unsafe. An autistic neighbour is trapped indoors by the overwhelming stench and noise of screaming pigs. Dogs have been affected, wildlife has disappeared and even her garden trees are dying.

The farm is just 800m from a drinking water safeguard zone, and is above an aquifer, yet no groundwater risk assessment was taken to ensure that the pig burial from the 1990s, which is near the farm's water soakaway, would not lead to water contamination. Bodies take 100 years to decompose. Residents are rightly concerned about drinking water contamination.

Make your objection before the 7th May ideally to make sure it counts! Thank you.

**How to make an objection:**

**Email to:** **planning@breckland.gov.uk**

* **Include BOTH References:**

**3PL/2021/0932/VAR**

**3PL/2021/0931/F**

* **Include date**
* **Make it clear that you object**
* **Include why you object to the retrospective planning application**
* **Include your name at the bottom of the letter**
* **If you have time, tailor your objection so each one submitted is different and less easily dismissed**

*Personalised and long objections are more impactful, but if you do not have time to write your own then please use our pre written objection, make sure to add the date and your name.*

*If you could spend a few minutes personalising the first paragraph that would be helpful.*

**Example Objection:**

**Subject:** Objection to Planning Application Ref: 3PL/2021/0932/VAR and 3PL/2021/0931/F

**Date:** [Insert Date]

Dear Planning Officer,

I write to you to strongly object to the planning application Ref: 3PL/2021/0932/VAR and 3PL/2021/0931/F.

Location: Cherry Tree Farm Cherry Tree Lane Stow Bedon NR17 1BY Grid Reference TL955954.

Proposal: Variation of Condition No2 on 3PL/2017/0878/F: Variation to reflect the as-built appearance and layout of the pig sheds, feed silos and manure store cover and proposed amendments including revised external materials and the addition of chimneys.

**I object to this application on the following grounds.**

**[Start with why this matters to you personally. You might want to mention if you live nearby or are passionate about protecting the environment, wildlife, you have kids / grandkids and are deeply worried about their future.]**

**I am concerned about:**

* The awful odours and ammonia pollution which lead to people feeling sick.
* Negative impacts of air pollution, water pollution, and water abstraction on protected habitat sites nearby (SSSIs), which are important to our community and should be protected for future generations.
* The ugly chimneys, built without planning permission.
* Lack of a comprehensive ammonia assessment.
* Lack of a greenhouse gas assessment and contribution to climate change.
* The sad conditions of pigs on factory farms, which inherently lead to immense suffering.
* The risk of pig flu which could lead to the next pandemic.
* The increased risk of antibiotic resistance due to the overuse of antibiotics on factory farms, which is a serious public health concern for anyone who gets an infection, for example in hospital.
* Negative impacts on chalk rivers, the aquifer, and drinking water, leading to higher costs for cleaning up water before it is drinkable.
* The lack of water availability in the region and the negative impacts on businesses and future generations.
* The negative impact of factory farming on small local farmers.
* The lack of a sufficient manure management plan and the impact of slurry on residents, wildlife, and groundwater when it is spread and used by 3 rd parties.
* The farm is just 800m from a drinking water safeguard zone, and is above an aquifer, yet no groundwater risk assessment was taken to ensure that the pig burial from the 1990s, which is near the farm’s water soakaway, would not lead to water contamination. Bodies take 100 years to decompose!
* We do not need more factory farms for food security, the UK exports a lot of its meat and we already produce more than enough meat in this country, there are 122 factory farms in Norfolk alone already! Our countryside cannot be sacrificed for profit.
* The water pollution from excess fertiliser from factory farms is holding up house building just as much if not more than the sewage crisis!
* The 12 permit breaches at this site already, the fact that Cranswick built the farm differently than planned, and the 4 year delay by the planning committee are deeply disconcerting to me.

[Your name]

Thank you for taking action.

Together, we can stop this.