

You can get your hands dirty too!

There will be plenty of opportunities over the summer for you to get hands-on with the build. We will be offering five-day straw bale experiences, or one-day clay render days. Dates are variable but we anticipate the straw experiences being available throughout August and into September, and the render experience days throughout September and October. If you are interested in either of these, there is no charge for our members and supporters – we would love to have you involved. Please contact our office or see our website to register your interest.



What will the money fund?

At least £50,000 is needed from individual shareholders and donors to make this project a reality. Work will start this spring with completion by spring 2019. This is a tight deadline and it is critical that funding targets are reached. An initial appeal is being launched to donors in May 2018 and the success of this appeal is crucial to buying the materials needed to start work.

Amongst the items that need funding right away are:

- Timber frame – £31,000
- Lime and clay plaster. Has enormous strength and lets the building breath – approximate cost £30,000
- 20,000 cedar Shingles and roof – approximate cost £80,000
- British sheep wool insulation – approximate cost £5,250
- Straw walls – the bales and the leaders for our volunteer team – approximate cost £20,000



ANY DONATIONS TOWARDS THESE ITEMS WILL BE GRATEFULLY RECEIVED BY CHARLOTTE AND THE TEAM AT FORDHALL.

Please send donations to: Charlotte Hollins, Bunkhouse Appeal, Fordhall Organic Farm, Tern Hill Road, Market Drayton, Shropshire, TF9 3PS. If you want more information you can also contact Charlotte on 01630 638696 or emailing project@fordhallfarm.com. You can also visit www.fordhallfarm.com/bunkhouseappeal for more details of this project.

"I believe children need to know where their food is coming from and how their food is processed. Without this vital information, they cannot make informed decisions on what food to buy, cook and eat in the future as well as how we should look after our farm animals.

I have seen so many children benefit from first hand experiences at Fordhall Farm, and I have seen how much fun they have while they are learning here. One day at Fordhall Farm is worth many weeks in a classroom. Just think how much they could learn and how much fun they could have over two or more days staying in the new bunkhouse."

Retired Teacher and Fordhall Volunteer, Gary Kanis (BEd Hons)

Huge thanks go to Power to Change and Our Bright Future for the £400,000 already secured!



Deadline: 31st May to raise the £50,000 needed and we will be eligible for a £50,000 contribution from the Jean Jackson Trust. This means that each £1 donated will be worth £2.00 to Fordhall.

Please help if you can



Please support the expansion of our care farm. They need more space.

Help us build a new bunkhouse

£50,000 Appeal Target – DEADLINE 31st May

"When Ben and I took the farm on after that amazingly frantic period when Fordhall was saved from the developers in 2006, we had a shared vision with you all. The first part of that was renovating the farmhouse, then we wanted to renovate the Old Dairy complete with farm shop, café and classroom. Finally, we wanted to create a comfortable and safe space for our volunteers and our educational visits. Every other aspect of that original vision is complete, only the bunkhouse remains. After a lot of hard work, that vision is now so close to being realised." **Charlotte Hollins**



Our old portacabins are simply not adequate for our growing needs.

An appeal to Fordhall shareholders and donors to help create a straw bale bunkhouse to replace the unsightly and draughty porta cabins. We need to support our volunteers and create capacity to expand the educational work of Fordhall. Thousands more school children and adults will be introduced to farm life and sustainable local and organic food. If we can raise £50,000 from individual supporters then we will have the opportunity of receiving a £50,000 fund from the Jean Jackson Charitable Trust. This means each £1 donated by supporters will be worth £2 to Fordhall. The balance of the £550,000 will come from existing secured grants and a crowdfunding appeal.

Volunteers are the heart of our conservation and community work at Fordhall, please support them in the work that they do. They desperately need a comfortable place to stay.



Why now?

Fordhall gained national prominence following the successful appeal to save the farm from the developers. There is an expectation on us to be flying the flag for a new way of farming, educating people on the benefits and indeed the importance of wildlife and farming working together. With Brexit on the horizon and climate change knocking on the door, never has the time been so right to build the connections between people, food, wildlife and health. Fordhall cannot do this alone, but it does have a strong role to play.

The new Bunkhouse will bring thousands more people on to the farm. We will do worm dances, take them pond dipping, involve them with conservation work, and encourage them to stand still and listen to the cattle chewing the cud. Our aim is to build lasting memories through hands on experiences that create memories forever.

Our passionate team are waiting to expand these opportunities and to welcome more people through Fordhall's doors. We want to help create a generation of adults who will be prepared to demand local and organic food that is produced in humane way alongside nature – and without chemicals.

"Our ultimate aim is to demonstrate that small-scale farming connected to the community can offer a viable way of life for generations to come."



The Design

CARTYRE FOUNDATIONS – to support the building and to lift the straw walls above ground. Using car tyres will reuse a nasty waste product that does not degrade and is not easily recycled. Car tyres will be filled with hard core and placed in regular locations to support the weight of the building, removing the need for concrete foundations.

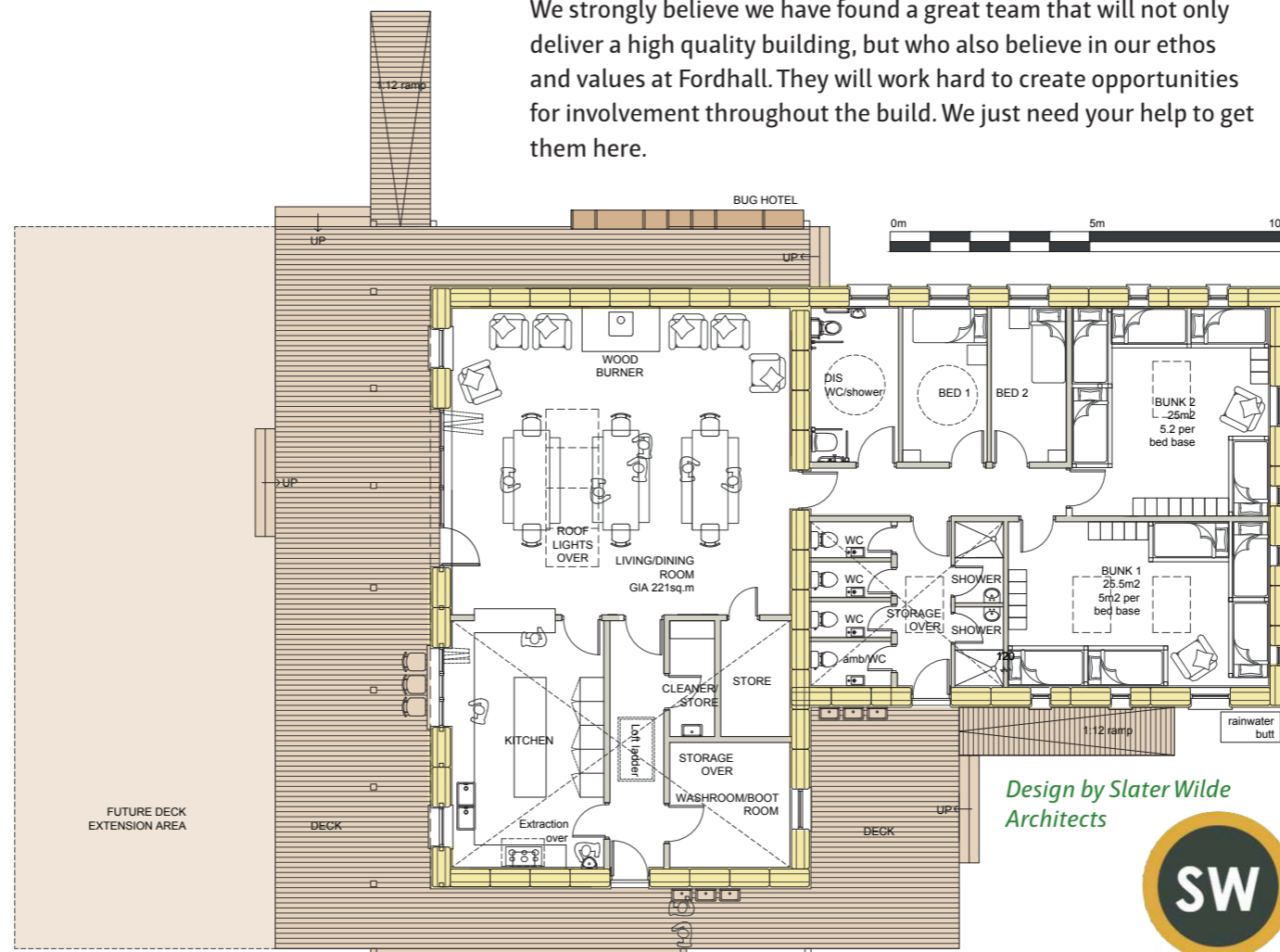
STRAW – constructed by the aptly named Huff and Puff Construction, we will create both load bearing and non-load bearing walls with our small straw bales. Using both methods will demonstrate how versatile straw bale construction can be. This carbon absorbing material will provide both insulation and structure for the building without the use of energy intense concrete. However, the main reason for choosing this material is because it facilitates involvement of the community, our volunteers and you.



CLAY AND LIME PLASTERS – will coat the straw offering protection from the elements, safeguarding the straw from damp, providing a fireproof lining and offering a completely breathable and natural wall structure.



Educational visits to Fordhall offer an experience to remember. Imagine the experiences we can offer with overnight visits.



TIMBER FRAME – using round wood timber harvested in Wales. It will be constructed by a workers' co-operative called Ty Pren. They will use only hand tools, even lifting the timber from the woods by hand. All joints will be traditionally handcrafted, and pegged together with handmade oak pegs. When it arrives on site, it will be erected with ropes, pulley's and small machinery – no cranes in sight.



CEDAR SHINGLES – in fact 20,000 of them will cover the roof. A wonderfully natural, yet resilient and long-lasting material to allow our building to merge with the natural landscape.

PV PANELS – will be placed on the roof to make the most of the south facing plane and to limit the energy we will need to buy from the grid.

All of these wonderful materials and more will be brought together by our Principal Contractors, Traditional Building Skills. They are used to working with people of all ages and abilities as well as providing training opportunities. They are also highly skilled in working on listed buildings, using natural materials and traditional techniques.



We strongly believe we have found a great team that will not only deliver a high quality building, but who also believe in our ethos and values at Fordhall. They will work hard to create opportunities for involvement throughout the build. We just need your help to get them here.

How will it be used?

Whilst the agricultural landscape of Fordhall Organic Farm is undoubtedly healthy (and you have helped this further through the Haven Appeal), the facilities for our volunteers are very inadequate. Planning permission has been granted to construct an ecological straw bale building. The FCLI must now raise £50,000 from individual shareholders and donors.

The building as a whole will provide five toilets and three showers allowing us to accommodate large groups of volunteers and visitors including brownies and scouts.

It will establish a comfortable and welcoming sleeping area for up to 30 volunteers, or a class of children, all experiencing life on the farm overnight, providing them with the opportunity to immerse themselves in a bat walk, to enjoy the beauty of the early morning bird song and to be absorbed by stargazing.

The social room will create a communal lunch area for any weather and so much more. It will provide a craft space for our care farm during the winter months, extra capacity for our free parent and toddler group, and it will offer an additional classroom space for our growing number of school visits during the winter months.

The kitchen will be big enough to allow our care farm users to make jams and chutneys with their garden produce and for us to run cookery courses, helping to spread our passion and the importance of home cooked, seasonal and healthy food. We will also host well-being courses such as yoga and meditation – making the most of the natural landscape for health and well-being.



To respond to the appeal please go to www.fordhallfarm.com/bunkhouseappeal or call Charlotte on 01630 638696 or send a gift to: Charlotte Hollins, Bunkhouse Appeal, Fordhall Organic Farm, Tern Hill Road, Market Drayton, Shropshire, TF9 3PS