



Testimonial - Future-proof storage

The Specialist Installations Division of Thurlow Nunn Standen recently completed an enhancement to E J Barker & Sons new 1,800 tonnes grain store at Kiln Farm, Great Ashfield.

For the 2014 harvest TNS erected a new grain store on the site of an old farm general purpose storage shed. This created a satellite hub for the business thus allowing the company to expand the farm contracting work they undertake. The recent installation of the second drying floor area on the opposite side of the duct for this season is a welcome development completing 1,200 tonnes of drying capacity plus 600 tonne of on floor storage.

Brian Barker explains: “In 2014 we took on extra land but there was no on-farm storage, we felt that it made better business sense to have our own store because we do our own grain marketing.

“Kiln Farm was the perfect site for the new store so we started the process of speaking to a number of different companies to arrange quotes for the work. We have a long history with TNS and naturally we asked them.

“All of the companies quoted very similar prices for the job but we felt it made more sense to appoint Jeremy Nunn of TNS. This gave us real peace of mind – knowing the level of service we would receive. The feedback from other people regarding the quality of work we could expect from Jeremy was extremely good.”

The historical ties between TNS and E J Barker & Sons go back a

long way. Matt Boardley of TNS’ Hinderclay branch provides support to the company with their machinery requirements. Matt adds: “E J Barker & Sons are valued long term customers of TNS and over the years we have built up an understanding of what machinery their business requires. We are confident that Brian knows that he can rely on TNS for his business needs.”

Describing the process as “very smooth and easy” Brian explained that they already had a design scope for what they wanted on the

Attention to detail is not wasted, with ecologically sound practices being offered. Rain water is harvested into a 96,000 litre storage tank so that the whole farm can be sprayed twice. Using the rain water will mean that the softer water will be better for the plants and sprayer nozzles alike. As the roof is south facing Solar PV is proposed.

Brian adds: “Each floor will hold 600T and that is one day’s combining, making it so much easier – we know we can just open the doors and tip in the sheds. Holding 3 days’ combining we could tip onto the floor to dry at 15.5% and then move to concrete floor if we want to.



“During the construction of the store everything was handled brilliantly, with the level of detail very impressive. We had to submit additional environmental impact reports for the planning permission owing to the high concentration of Great Crested Newts nearby, however, the whole process was handled very smoothly.”

Jeremy Nunn, Director of S.I.D. adds: “We were delighted to continue the long term association with E J Barker, particularly being able to assist in the incorporation of rainwater harvesting and renewable energy.”

Brian concludes: “The construction of the store will pay dividends in the future and following in my grandfather’s footsteps I’m future proofing our business, like he used to say, ‘farming is only going to get bigger’.”

site and so, with innovative ideas from Jeremy Nunn, ‘played’ with the design. The new store provides the flexibility to fill all their new and existing buildings and really manage the grain, giving real peace of mind should there be adverse weather.

Building a high storage shed, 6.75m (24’) to the eaves, provides the ability to tip an articulated lorry in the centre. With a wide range of crops being produced including winter wheat, OSR, spring barley, linseed and spring beans, the sheds are a welcome addition with three distinct storage areas.

