

PRESS RELEASE



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The Old Dairy
Winchester Hill
Sutton Scotney
Winchester SO21 3NZ

New Visitor Centre Nears Completion

Telephone: 01962 763900
Fax: 01962 763901
Email: info@bcm.co.uk
www.bcm.co.uk

This large project to create a Visitor's Centre, Education building and the Cholderton Rare Breeds' Farm is nearing completion of the first phase. The building and Visitors Centre is due to be ready for opening for the half term week in October.

The Architects Department at Bays Curry McCowen(BCM) drew up the plans for this extensive build, and obtained planning permission in 2003 for the whole scheme. The project has taken longer than one might have expected because the owners have been managing the project with help from BCM and other contractors. This first phase of the development is only a part of the overall plan for the farm to ensure its long term viability, to try to include building elements that are environmentally friendly and give a excellent educational facility for visitors. When it opens in October it is expected to draw in the crowds and give an excellent opportunity to help the public understand more about livestock rare breeds.

Cholderton Farm is a picturesque farm, twice winner of the Wiltshire Family Attraction of the Year Awards and is internationally known for its large selection of rare breeds. It is a living museum of Britain's farm animal heritage boasting 13 magnificent ancient breeds of sheep, including the seaweed eating North Ronaldsay, eight breeds of pigs, 18 breeds of poultry as well as ponies, goats and cows.

The next phase of the development, the youth hostel, is scheduled to start in the autumn and includes a conversion of the original farmhouse with an added extension. This will allow people to come and spend several days at the farm and will be ideal for school trips and educational parties. When the whole plan is complete, Cholderton will be able to offer a tremendous asset to the area to complement and enhance the rare breeds farm.

For further information contact James Fraser at BCM on 01962 763900 or Mr & Mrs McConnell on 07764 762594

Partners: Iain Curry Andrew Bays Henry McCowen Ros Foreman Alastair Wilson James Fraser