

Bletsoes

EST. 1881

Thrapston: 01832 736755

www.bletsoes.co.uk

Stratford: 01789 721643

The Market Report

April Professional Ponderings

“A Pint of Beer Please”

These are the words that I have been longing to say for what feels like an eternity. Though the weather has been changeable, the prospect of sitting in a pub garden with friends and family has certainly lifted my spirits and though we still have a long way to go, life does seem to be improving. Fortunately, the Agricultural team have remained busy throughout the pandemic and personally speaking I am as busy as I can remember. I am not sure why this is exactly, but I suspect it is in part due to clients having more time to focus upon the overall farm business.

We have arranged most of this year's grasskeeping arrangements, but still have the odd bit to sort. If you are looking for grass, then please register your details and requirements by either contacting a member of the Agricultural team or emailing your requirements to enquiries@bletsoes.co.uk. Conversely, if you have surplus grass to sell, then please do let us know.

The Agricultural team will soon be busy with Basic Payment Scheme applications. The greening requirements have been scrapped, so there is no longer a requirement to comply with the rules concerning Crop Diversification

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and Ecological Focus Area. Therefore, you are free to crop what you like! However, the application process is still very much the same, so you will still need to detail what crops are where and in what proportion. If you have an Environmental Stewardship agreement, such as ELS and HLS, or a Countryside Stewardship agreement, such as Mid-Tier or Higher-Tier, it is important to make sure your BPS Land Use Codes are compatible with the relevant management option. Increasingly, I am seeing clients have issues with incompatible land use codes. In some instances, these issues have led to inspections, which have then led to hefty penalties.

Early reports are that the English market for Entitlements is busy and are trading at a similar level with non-SDA Entitlements selling between £110/unit plus VAT to £180/unit, depending on lot size. With BPS payments reducing, you would have expected to see Entitlement values reduce. However, the proposed 'exit support scheme' (also known as the 'retirement payment') is helping to keep values firm. Incidentally, although the precise details of the proposed retirement package are not known, it is possible the 'exit support scheme' may be linked to your 2021 BPS application as a 'reference year' and therefore it may prove prudent to maximise your claim if you are intending to take advantage of the 'exit support scheme'. The reference year element may also be appropriate with future delinking of BPS payments. As ever, please contact us with your Entitlement requirements.

Stratford-on-Avon District Council and Warwick District Council are working together to prepare a new Local Plan for South Warwickshire. The Plan is expected to replace the strategic policies of their respective local plans, which both run to 2031. The 'South Warwickshire Local Plan' will set out a long-term spatial strategy for housing, jobs, infrastructure and climate change for both Districts. The full timetable for the preparation of the South Warwickshire Plan is still to be agreed. However, work is progressing with the first stages of plan preparation with the expectation of a first Scoping and Initial Options public consultation April-May 2021. At this stage, landowners (and developers) will have an opportunity to suggest suitable sites for development, commonly referred to as the 'Call for Sites' process. We have a specialist Planning & Development team, who can talk you through the process. In the first instance, please call me for further information.

As regards infrastructure news, the Transport Secretary, Grant Shapps MP, has cancelled the proposed Oxford to Cambridge Expressway. The proposed Expressway was meant to facilitate development of the 'Oxford-Cambridge Arc' but was found not to provide value for money for the taxpayer.

Finally, the concept of Biodiversity Net Gain is beginning to gain traction at grass roots level, but it is location dependant. To remind you, Biodiversity Net Gain is the net improvement to biodiversity for a defined area of land. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) places a responsibility on local planning authorities to encourage net gains for biodiversity to be sought through planning policies and decisions. Furthermore, the UK Government has announced that new English developments will be required to demonstrate a 10% increase in biodiversity on or near development sites. Therefore, developers may seek to fulfil their biodiversity off-site by purchasing biodiversity credits from third party landowners. I am aware of deals being done in Warwickshire between rural landowners (where the prospect of substantial development seems remote) and developers to sell biodiversity credits. Such sales may provide a good saving for the developer against the sum required for planning gain. DEFRA are currently working on a new and improved biodiversity metric for measuring biodiversity losses and gains; this updated metric is called the biodiversity metric 2.0. It is an area that will progress quickly and is worth paying attention to.

As the guest editorial slot rotates around the wider Bletsoes team, it may be a while before I write the Ponderings again, so I wish you the very best for the Spring and Summer and hope that you are able to enjoy spending more time with family and friends.

Christopher Templar
Salaried Partner



Click the link to view our Stratford Facebook page for further up to date information about our sales pre and post sale.

<https://www.facebook.com/StratfordLivestockMarket/>

Stratford Forthcoming Events

Tuesday 13th April

Prime, Cull & Store Sheep
Special Sale of Ewes with Lambs at Foot

**** Please forward your entries as soon as possible ****

No Fur & Feather, Produce & Misc Sale

Tuesday 20th April

Prime, Cull & Store Sheep
No Fur & Feather, Produce & Misc Sale



HANDS



FACE



SPACE

Face coverings are mandatory in all areas of the Market.

FCN

**THE FARMING
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NETWORK**

listening / supporting / connecting

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Helpline:

03000 111 999

e-Helpline:

help@fcn.org.uk

Helpline is open 7am to 11pm every day of the year

REPORT FOR TUESDAY 6TH APRIL

10 New Season Lambs

10 Mediums - A pen full again this week met stronger demand than last week, selling to 370p or £149.85 for CJ Holmes.

To		From		Average	
370p	£149.85	370p	£149.85	370p	£149.85

123 Prime Hogg

33 Standards – 39kg and 33kg hogs sold to 325p or £126.75 for R Deutsch; East Farm sold their 37kg hogs to 320p or £118.40; WW Steele sold 37.5kg Easycare hogs to 318.5p or £119.44; and GJ Nichols sold 34kg hogs to 309p or £105.06.

To		From		Average	
325p	£126.75	300p	£105.00	317.5p	£114.58

75 Mediums – topping at 328p for WR Haines for 39.5kg hogs realising £129.56, though not his dearest pen per head which sold to £147.42 for a pen of 45.5kg hogs; R Deutsch sold 45kg hogs to 324p or £145.80; WW Steele sold 39.5kg Easycare hogs to 320p with a heavier pen grossing £142.18.

To		From		Average	
328p	£147.42	318p	£125.61	321.8p	£136.08

11 Heavies – James Underhill sold two 47.5kg hogs to 319p or £151.93; and slightly heavier at 51.5kg WR Haines sold a pen of nine Suffolks to £151.93.

To		From		Average	
319p	£151.93	295p	£151.53	299.1p	£151.85

4 Over 52kg – Paul Allen sold four 58kg hogs to £150.80 or 260p.

To		From		Average	
260p	£150.80	260p	£150.80	260p	£150.80

Our Chaplain and FCN Member, Rev Richard Wilde is available by phone on
07971 218356

35 Cull Ewes & Rams

Selling to £170 for a Texel from A North & Sons with others to £162, £150, £146 & £142 with their Mules to £120; Tim Withers sold a Suffolk to £131.50, Charollais to £124 & £121.50; and WW Steele saw a top of £111. Rams, R Burrow sold a Longwool ram to £110 and a Badgerface to £91; Tim Withers Charollais sold to £91.50.

To	From	Average
£170.00	£64.00	£108.84

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 13th April
Ewes with Lambs at Foot

Tuesday 1st June
Spring Show & Sale of Lambs

Tuesday 6th July
Summer Show & Sale of Lambs

*For further information please
contact the Market Team*

Stratford Market Report 2021 Advertising Tariff

Advertising Charges

1/8 Page	£10 Per Week
1/4 Page	£20 Per Week
1/2 Page	£30 Per Week
Full Page	£50 Per Week
	+ VAT

Discounted Rates Available

For further information,
or to place and advert,
please contact Beth Kitchener
on 01832 732241 or beth.kitchener@bletsoes.co.uk

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A COLLECTIVE ONLINE TIMED AUCTION OF MACHINERY & EFFECTS



Starts: Friday 30th April at 9am

Finishes: Wednesday 5th May at 12noon

For Entry Forms please visit our website

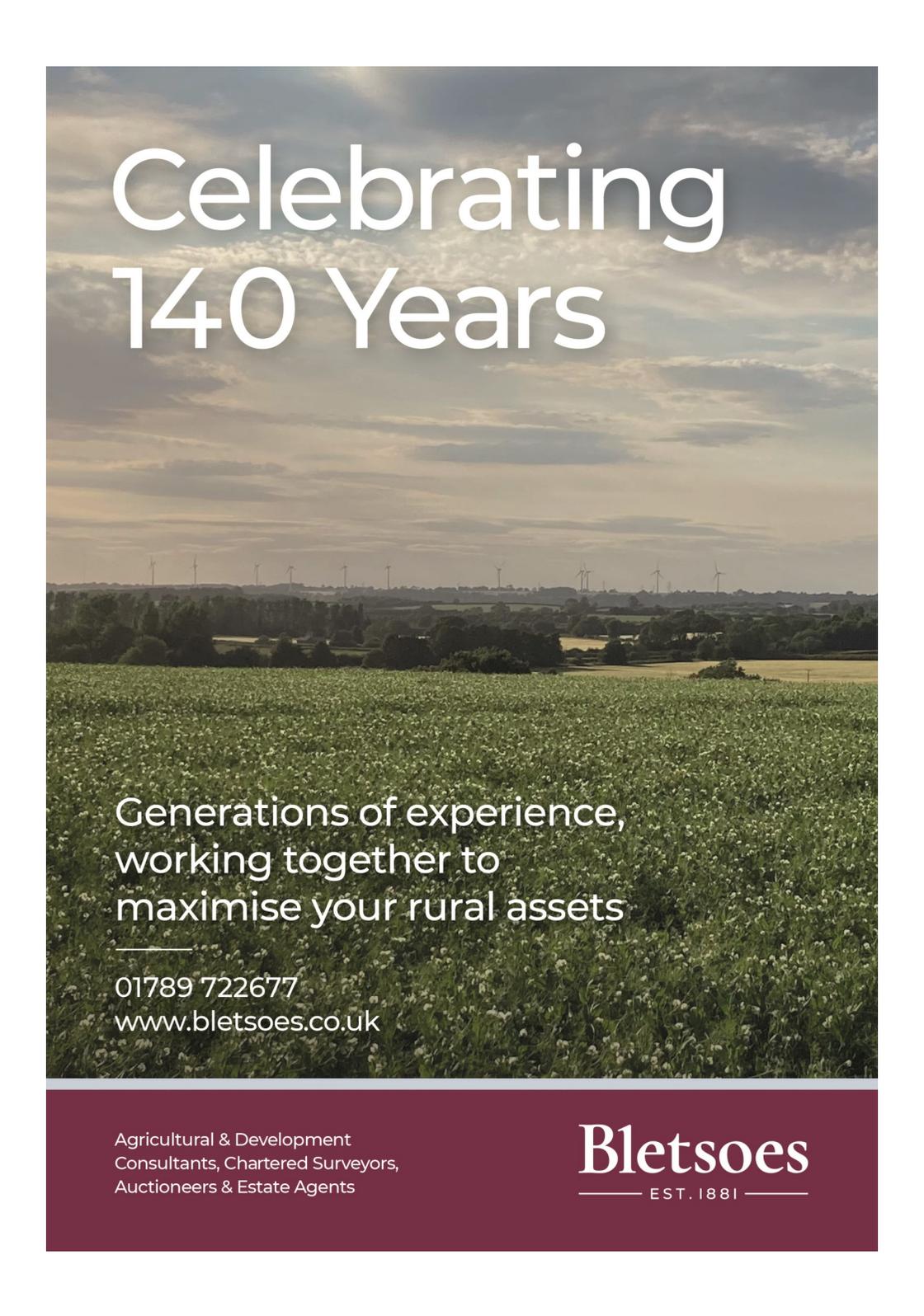
Important, entries **must** be returned by email to

beth.kitchener@bletsoes.co.uk

By 12 noon on Tuesday 27th April 2021

Entries will be lotted on a first come, first served basis.

Auctioneer in Charge: Alastair Brown 07885 804450



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