

THE WHITE PARK CATTLE SOCIETY
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31st January, 2011

By e-mail to: lordmayorsoffice@leeds.gov.uk

Dear Lord Mayor

The White Park Cattle Society wishes to convey their extreme concern regarding the proposals in the Farming Operations consultation document from the Parks and Countryside Department of Leeds City Council.

Temple Newsam Home Farm is the home of the most endangered breed of cattle in Europe, the Vaynol Cattle. Following the sale of Vaynol Park in North Wales, the Vaynol herd followed an itinerant existence before finding a base at Temple Newsam in 1989. Breeding had failed elsewhere but the skill, dedication and standards of husbandry by the farm manager and staff of Home Farm have proved to be a resounding success. There have been papers published internationally detailing the preservation of the unique genetic material of Vaynol cattle.

The White Park Cattle Society is the registrar for the Vaynol herd.

Temple Newsam has a herd of White Park cattle that are an integral part of the future of the Vaynol cattle. The unique genetic resources will enable the breeding programme involving the White Park cattle and Vaynol cattle to increase the numbers of Vaynol cattle, and prevent too much inbreeding, which is detrimental to a herd so small in numbers. This breeding programme will take many years to complete.

Leeds City Council at Temple Newsam has been at the forefront of pioneering conservation activities for many years; and therefore the standards for preserving and promoting Britain's livestock heritage have been set and used as a benchmark for others. Temple Newsam has always worked with the White Park Cattle Society to promote the breed and the farms many conservation activities.

If you require further information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact the society.

Yours sincerely

Yvonne Froehlich
Breed Secretary White Park Cattle Society