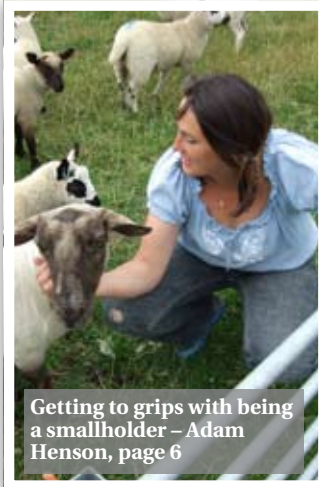




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- **The National Poultry Show** – Grant Brereton reports
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- **Vet's Forum** – Health questions answered by Victoria Roberts



BRING THE PLANNING SYSTEM UP TO DATE

Many people get disheartened when they try to obtain planning permission for a development which will enable them to lead 'the good life'.

A common scenario is for the aspiring smallholder, often with limited financial resources, to buy a piece of land and then seek to establish a low impact dwelling.

At this point they can become ensnared in a labyrinthine planning process that leaves them angry and disillusioned.

This month we report on an exciting and imaginative project to provide would-be smallholders with affordable land and low-impact dwellings (page 11).

The application was supported by planning officers and the parish council... then rejected by the district planning committee. Now it is due to be decided by an inspector on appeal.

Planning consultant Clive Miller, who writes for this magazine, said it is time the planning system is changed at a national level to recognise that setting up such projects makes good economic and environmental sense.

We strongly agree. As climate change becomes more severe, as food security becomes more tenuous, and as many more millions feel the economic squeeze, it makes perfect sense to encourage more people to develop viable smallholdings where they can become self-sufficient and produce their own food and energy.

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each worth £90-£95
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Enter our competition
on page 41



The Land Battle – the problems with our planning process: page 11

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