



## Work continues apace on new CLAAS UK headquarters

Following the completion and move into the first phase of the new MANNS and CLAAS UK headquarters building at Saxham, the second phase of construction is well under way and on course for completion early next year.

The multi-million pound project to completely redevelop the Saxham site provides both CLAAS UK and MANNS with a modern purpose-built building, that will especially improve the customer experience for MANNS. It will also provide the two companies with a superb working environment for their employees.

In addition to offices for CLAAS and MANNS, the Phase 1 development included the construction of a new, full height TECHNOPARK showroom area for MANNS and a state-of-the-art 10 bay 'fire station' type workshop building, giving the dealership arguably one of the most modern workshop facilities in the UK.

Phase 2, which is due to be completed in April 2020, will house further offices, a second TECHNOPARK showroom, a new on-site restaurant 'Seasons' and a new Parts Warehouse. This will clear the way for the demolition of the current warehouse building and the construction of the final phase of development to complete the landmark project.

Designed by architects Barber.Casanovas.Ruffles of Cambridge, particular attention has been paid to the state-of-the-art building's environmental credentials. The building uses solar passive design techniques and energy for the building is sourced from the neighbouring Symonds Farm 1.4MW AD plant, supplemented by a solar panel array on the roof of the Phase 2 building. Rainwater from the building's large roof area is also harvested and stored in large underground tanks for use in a dedicated machinery washdown bay.

The history of CLAAS and MANNS at Saxham goes back to the 1930's when local farmer Bill Mann started importing CLAAS combines from Germany. The MANNS company moved to the site at Saxham during the 1950's.

Saxham is also home to the CLAAS Academy training centre, which provides over 4,000 training days for dealer personnel and customers every year. As part of the redevelopment of Saxham, the Academy moved into its own purpose build facility in 2017.

The CLAAS Academy building features extensive classrooms, break-out areas and five workshop areas capable of accommodating the largest CLAAS combines and forage harvesters. In addition to formal classroom training, the Academy is developing a new eLearning facility using videos and animations, with two staff dedicated to this new facility which provides an increasing number of eLearning programmes. The Academy is also setting new standards in the use of bar and QR codes to support self-discovery training, in addition to the introduction of 3D printed training aids.

