

DAVID THOMAS HUNKIN of Crynallt Cottage, Crynallt Road, Cimla, Neath SA11 3RL
will state:-

1. On or about the 23rd June 1987 I purchased land on the north side of Tonmawr Road, Pontrhydyfen ("the Yard") which was registered in my name under title number WA380102. I attach Office Copy Entries marked DTH1.
2. Before I purchased the Yard in 1987 I submitted an application to the Local Planning Authority for an Established Use Certificate. The application was granted on the 17th December 1986 and I attach a copy of the Certificate for ease of reference.
3. As soon as I purchased the Yard I continued to use it as a transport yard for my business. At the time of my purchase there was a Large Garage ("the Large Garage") on a concrete pad and there was a pit in the garage so that I could maintain my vehicles. Shortly after my purchase I added a lean-to at the side of the Large Garage ("lean-to")
4. At its maximum I had 7 lorries on the road and trailers.
5. In 2014 I went into semi-retirement and sold 6 of my 7 lorries. I continued to use the Yard, however, on a part time basis. I kept at the yard one lorry together with my excavator, wood chipper, tractor and other tools. I continued to use the Large Garage with the pit to maintain the lorry and all the equipment
6. I then decided to try to secure Planning Permission for residential development for the Yard for 5 houses and I was advised by Ron Bagshaw to use the services of Mr Martyn Sparnon Architect as my agent. I confirm that the application was submitted on the 31st May 2016 and subsequently withdrawn on the 27th March 2018 because of flooding issues. A copy is attached for ease of reference.
7. I continued to store my equipment in the Yard to include a Hymac and a lorry registration number CE52 TCJ. I could not move it from the yard as it was not taxed or insured or had an MOT certificate. It is however still driveable.

8. In addition to using the Large Garage and the Lean-to myself I allowed others to use it historically from the 1990's until 2016. I recall that the following people used the facility of the pit in particular:-
R H Black of RHB Drain Services of Tonmawr,
Gwyn Prosser
Ian Williams
David Ricketts
9. In November 2016 there was a major storm and during the storm a V shaped branch of a tree fell on the roof of both the small garage and the large garage rendering both unsafe.
9. Unfortunately I do not have any pictures of the Garage.
10. It was firstly essential for me to remove the tree. It was so large that I had to seek assistance and Robert H. Black of RHB Drain Services came to my aid and I then cut up the tree using my chainsaws. Mr. Black then removed the wood and the steel structure.
11. The garages were not insured and I was worried about third party liability.
12. I decided to demolish the garages and initially checked with Chemical experts that there was no asbestos. There was no asbestos.
13. I attend the site on a daily basis as I keep two Donkeys on site. When I am there I still carry out maintenance to my vehicles and in particular my truck. My son-in-law Ian Williams has two trucks a Toyota and a Hilux Pick up. He lives in a residential area and has no facilities for maintaining his vehicles nor his wife's vehicles. accordingly, whenever he needs to do something on either vehicle he does it at the Yard. He used to be a driver and is able to maintain his own vehicles and carries out all his routine maintenance on the two vehicles at the Yard and continues to do so.
14. I attach a statement from Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency dated the 31st May 2019 confirming that I am still recorded as a customer. I receive these statements on a monthly basis.

15. I attach a Google photograph showing my Yard

I confirm that the contents of this Statement are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signed.....



DAVID THOMAS HUNKIN

Dated.....



Ref: SLJ/RM/45082

Witnessed By:

D. E. Havello

25/9/2019.