



STATEMENT OF WITNESS

**(CRIMINAL PROCEDURE RULES, r27.1(1);
CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACT 1967 SECTIONS 2 & 9 :
MAGISTRATES COURTS ACT 1989, s.5B)**

Surname: Hyde **Forenames:** Graeme

Age of Witness (if over 18 enter "over 18"): Over 18

Occupation: Senior Planning Officer, East Lindsey District Council

Address: East Lindsey District Council, The Hub, Mareham Road, Horncastle
Lincolnshire, LN9 6PH.

This statement (consisting of two pages, each signed by me), is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

I am the Local Planning Authority case officer for two planning applications relating the site known as Longlands Farm, Lodge Lane, Minting.

The first is application reference S/122/950/22 which seeks planning permission for the siting of a caravan for residential use in connection with agriculture (works completed). I have visited the site on two occasions in specific relation to this application. The 1st was on the 25/5/22, the 2nd was on the 18/2/23. On the 2nd occasion it was a pre-arranged meeting with the applicant, Mr William Tidd. The application was discussed for approximately 1hr. Negotiation has been ongoing since, but it remains pending.

The second application is S/122/1312/23 which seeks planning permission for the erection of an agricultural building to be used for the housing of animals and construction of a site access road. I visited the site on the 18/7/23, specifically for this application. This was not pre-arranged but met Mr Tidd at the site entrance. He showed me around the site, principally to see the siting of the proposed agricultural building.

Signed.....

We discussed both this new application and the initial application. I explained we still had concerns that the 'functional' and 'financial' tests to justify the caravan have yet to be proven.

In brief, I outlined that as justification has not been proven, it could lead to a refusal of the application. Mr Tidd believes he's done enough and not sure what else he can do to justify the caravan. I offered guidance on this. As part of the discussion Mr Tidd outlined an option of what may happen if permission is refused for the caravan. He put his hand on the head of his young son, who was stood next to him at the time, and said that if permission is not granted that he would make one phone call and would be able to fill the site with gypsy caravans. This was not in a confrontational or threatening way to encourage an approval, but more as a matter of fact. I offered no response to this and conversation continued about the planning applications.

Dated: 10/08/2023

Signed.....

I am employed by East Lindsey District Council ("the Council") as a Senior Planning Officer. I have held this position for over 20 years.