

STATUTORY DECLARATION OF HELYN CLACK

Section 191, Town and Country Planning Act 1990

Application for a Certificate of Lawfulness of Agricultural use

Brooklyn Farm, Bonnetts Lane, Ifield, Crawley RH11 0NY

I, HELYN CLACK, of Beenleigh, Russ Hill, Charlwood, Horley, Surrey RH6 0EL, DO SOLEMNLY AND SINCERELY DECLARE as follows:

1. I am a Director of Imperial Buildings (Horley) Limited, together with my brother, Charles Yarwood.
2. Imperial Buildings (Horley) Limited acquired Brooklyn Farm in the 1970s and I have had knowledge of the property and its history throughout our ownership.
3. Brooklyn Farm was originally operated as a dairy farm. The land was farmed by a tenant farmer, whom I recall to have been Jack Warren.
4. During that period the Traditional Sussex Barn (A1), the Attached Hovel (A2), and the western end silo bay of the southern range containing two grain silos (B1) were used in connection with the agricultural operation of the holding. The land now edged red on the application plan is the immediate setting of those buildings. It does not include the yard between the northern range (the pole barn) and the southern range (1999 Building 3), or the remainder of those buildings.
5. The Sussex Barn was used for the storage of hay. The attached Hovel was used for the storage of hay and agricultural equipment associated with hay making.
6. The two grain silos in B1 remain in situ. They occupy that bay. They have not been removed, adapted or repurposed for any alternative use.
7. In approximately the mid-1980s the Sussex Barn was struck by a milk tanker, resulting in damage to one side of the building. The barn was subsequently propped and the arrangement of the principal access into the main farmyard was altered. This incident did not change the use of A1, A2 or B1.
8. Following the death of the tenant farmer during the 1990s, the dairy operations reduced significantly. A1, A2 and B1, and the land edged red, remained in their agricultural condition. Non-agricultural activities which later took place elsewhere at Brooklyn Farm did not, to my knowledge, extend into the land and buildings identified in this declaration.
9. Since that time the Sussex Barn has continued to contain remnants of historic hay and the attached Hovel has continued to contain remnants of hay and agricultural equipment which have naturally deteriorated over time.
10. Throughout my involvement with Brooklyn Farm, A1, A2 and B1 have not, to my knowledge, been put to any alternative use following the reduction of their active agricultural use.

11. The agricultural land to the rear of the holding has continued to be managed agriculturally following the reduction of the dairy enterprise. The fields have been grazed by sheep and used for the production of hay by Mark Lavender (Farmer), who still cuts the hay to this day.

12. Throughout my involvement with Brooklyn Farm, I have never known the Traditional Sussex Barn, the Attached Hovel, or the western end silo bay (B1) to be used for anything other than their agricultural purpose, nor have I known them to undergo any material change of use.

13. The company has retained these buildings as part of the Brooklyn Farm holding throughout its ownership.

AND I MAKE this solemn Declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of the Statutory Declarations Act 1835.

Declared by:

