WS9

Witness Statement

To oppose AVA/2026/0061

Tudor Lodge, Lodge Drive, Belper DE56 2TP

Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for an Existing Use of Outbuilding as Incidental Residential Use.

To whom it may concern

Re: My recollections of the incident of polluting the stream a [redacted] in 2012.

My name is [redacted] and I am the owner o[redacted] I have lived in [redacted] since 2008. My house is next to the Ashbourne Road and opposite it, up the steep hillside, are the properties on the old Strutt Bridgehill site, including that of the now deceased [redacted] referred to below.

In 2012, I started to notice that our very clean stream was suddenly being polluted on Monday mornings by very dirty water full of bubbles. As the stream feeds the sole drinking water trough for the stock animal in the fields around [redacted] was very concerned for the health of the animals. I contacted the Environmental Agency at Burton on Trent.

Within a day an Inspector called [redacted] came to examine the pollution. He took samples from all along the stream and took them for analysis. Within a very short period he returned to explain that analysis had indicated that a washing machine was discharging somewhere up stream. He informed me that he was going to inspect houses on the north of Bridge Hill to try and locate the course of the stream and the potential source of the pollution.

He returned to say that he had failed to find the stream, but he was going to try properties on Lodge Drive.

After about an hour he returned in an agitated state to inform me that he had found the stream and located the source of the pollution. He had found that a washing machine had recently been moved from a kitchen into an archway garage. It had been plumbed in to discharge into a rainwater gully that was carrying the water into the stream. He had spoken to those responsible and explained that this was illegal to mix foul water with surface discharges. [redacted] said he had given the owners a week to remove the offending machine and dismantle associated plumbing. If they failed to achieve the task the Agency would prosecute.

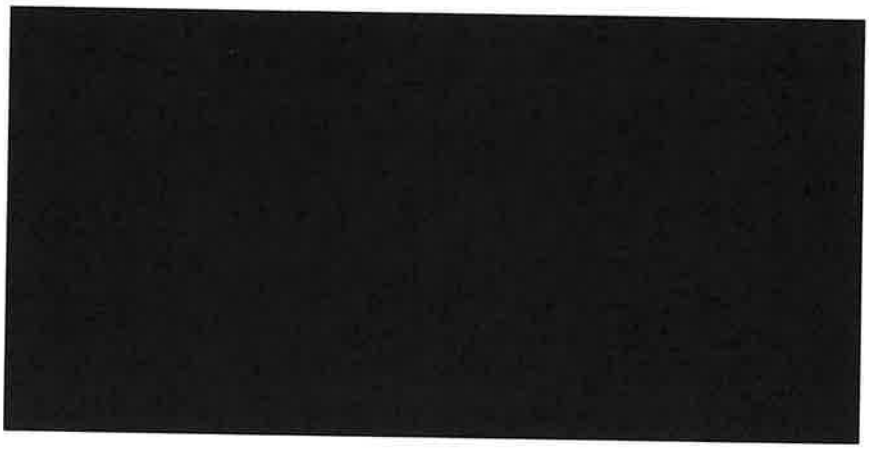
He returned a week later to check and informed me that his instructions had been carried out. He further told me that if it should happen again the Agency would go straight for prosecution. He further told me that he had given a verbal warning that the garage <u>was not to be used as a utility room as there was no suitable drainage around the property.</u>

Shortly after this I was talking to [redacted] who volunteered the story word for word as [redacted] had related it to me. He informed me that the washing machine belonged to [redacted] at Tudor Lodge.

[redacted] 22/02/26

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true. I understand that proceedings for contempt of court may be brought against anyone who makes, or causes to be made, a false statement in a document verified by a statement of truth without an honest belief in its truth.

Signed



22/02/26