

DATED 27th August 2021

STATUTORY DECLARATION

I, Mr Kevin Sherris, of 'Penhallow, 4 Pilots Retreat, Hugh Town, St Mary's, Isles of Scilly, TR21 0PB', DO SOLEMNLY AND SINCERELY DECLARE as follows:

1. This submission is made in support of the application for a certificate of lawfulness for the use of the property known as, 'Penhallow, 4 Pilots Retreat, Hugh Town, St Mary's, Isles of Scilly, TR21 0PB.'
2. I opened up Penhallow Guest House with my wife Catherine Sherris on 14 June 2010. This was originally to supply room and board to Kier Western labourers who were contracted by the council to build the new Five Islands school. This was usually two people at a time, in separate rooms, but varied over time and was occasionally four rooms at a time. The Kier bookings continued through until 4 April 2011 when the school was finally completed. By this time, we were taking bookings from holiday makers on a B&B basis along with the occasional Kier contractors.
3. Up to five rooms were available at any one time in the guesthouse and were available to book by guests. At all times (save for when we took our own holidays, carrying out maintenance etc) it has been available to book as a guesthouse, even during the low seasons.
4. In order to secure further business for our guesthouse, on 21 August 2010 we had set up the ScillyPenhallow.com web site and we were also advertising on the council website through the Tourism Office. An advert in the Isles of Scilly brochure for 2011 (operated at the time by the Tourism Office of the Council of the Isles of Scilly) was purchased on 8 October 2010. These evidence our use of the property – we would not have procured and maintained a website and brochure advertisements if we were not operating the guesthouse.

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By Lisa Walton at 1:02 pm, Sep 02, 2021

5. In order to be in the council brochure we had to be paid up members of Visit England (or currently known as The English Tourist Board) who as part of their remit scrutinised public Liability insurance and suitability to operate as a B&B, checked fire and electrical certificates and more recently Health and safety. This continued annually through to the present day although the council no longer run the Tourist Office it is now run by the IP (Island Partnership) who also have the same requirements with Visit England.
6. Catherine Sherris and I have continuously operated Penhallow as a guest house since June 2010 and right from the beginning we have kept a reservations diary and guest book. These are sizeable given the 10 year+ period over which we have been operating. We have provided copies of all entries for years 2010-2016, but the books from 2017 onwards were one page per week and therefore would require an additional 250 photographs, but we are prepared to make these available to the Council to inspect. In any event, Trip advisor reviews from July 2012 also corroborate that we have continued to operate Penhallow as a guesthouse. I can confirm that the bookings noted in the booking diaries record who actually booked and stayed at the guesthouse as opposed to speculative enquiries, or 'reservations'.
7. At all material times over a 10 year period Penhallow was in use as a guesthouse, with varying numbers of rooms let and available to let. The property remains a guesthouse to this ~~date~~ and the rooms are available to book.

AND I MAKE THIS SOLEMN DECLARATION conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of the provisions of the Statutory Declarations Act 1835.

DECLARED AT [FULL ADDRESS] *Alegria, High Lanes, St Mary's TR21 0NW*
In the County of *Ile of Galley*

This day of *27 August* 2021

BEFORE ME: *KATHARINE SAWYER*

SIGNED: 

~~Commissioner for oaths or a solicitor empowered to administer oaths~~ [AS APPROPRIATE]

Justice of the Peace