

**Philip Errington  
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Planning Appeals and  
Advice**



NO CHQ

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3 August, 2010

FOR THE ATTENTION OF ALEXANDRA COTTON

Dear Madam

**Re - application for Lawful Use Certificate, Land at 141, High Street, Great Houghton  
Application ref 2010/0945**

I enclose three originals, and one copy, of a sworn statement by Mr Michael Bailey in support of his new application. These documents have already been included in the re-submitted application submitted via the Planning Portal on 28<sup>th</sup> July, but not in the form of a sworn statement. Further to your e-mail of 23<sup>rd</sup> July, I would be grateful if you would also add the oblique air photograph to the submitted documents as agreed.

Yours sincerely

Philip Errington



**RTPI**

mediation of space - making of place

This statement is made by Mr M Bailey of 141 High Street Great Houghton, Barnsley, S72 OAZ.

I hereby give information relating to land adjacent to 135, High Street, Great Houghton and its use.

May 1<sup>st</sup> 1985 we moved into 135 High Street, Great Houghton. We moved there from a short distance away in the village. The bungalow was in a poor state of repair, and alongside the bungalow was a disused filling station, to the side of the filling station was an area of made up ground which was used by the former resident as a scrap yard and a substantial amount of plastic had been dumped on this land following a cable stripping operation. Generally the site was an eyesore.

From 1981 I was self employed as a heavy vehicle mechanical engineer, having built up several pieces of plant equipment i.e 2x25 tonne articulated dump trucks and small plant equipment which I initially kept at my father's house in Hemmingfield, Wombwell. As I expanded my business I looked for a commercial property where I could store, stand and repair plant and agricultural equipment. During 1984 Thornton Skip Hire put 135 High Street up for sale, we purchased it and moved in. Our equipment expanded further although the majority of time plant equipment was out of the yard on site either in the quarrying industry or road construction industry. We have worked on sites all over the country.

We had the council test the tanks and decided to re-open the petrol filling station, we had a general clean up of the area and gave the whole place a paint and tidy up. However in 1991 we closed the garage as it was not financial covering its costs. We continued to use the whole of the area of land for storage and standing area. There could be from 2 pieces of equipment to a yard full at bank holidays and when sites were closing and we moved site locations. We worked for "blue chip" companies i.e: Environment Agency, La Farge Quarries, Mowlem to mention a few. Plant and equipment would be low loaded into the yard from site for repair in the workshop as and when necessary.

In 1992 we sold 135 High Street to Mr & Mrs K Walker. They purchased the bungalow and an area to build a double garage. We moved into 141 High Street which was situated in the back of the premises. We constructed ourselves an area to the front of 141 as garden area and a driveway. This impacted on the area which we had left for standing plant equipment, however, when we demolished the filling station this gave more space for standing equipment to the frontage.

We have held an Operator's Licence on the premises since 1987 for 1x flat back lorry. 1 x low loader tractor unit and several trailers. Most of the time these pieces of plant were parked on the piece of land to the side of the filling station. In 1995 we demolished the filling station and removed the tanks. The environmental health officer came out and took samples for contaminants of all the area around the garage, its fuel bunds and the area of land at the side was dug up for testing. We have evidence of this on a video tape which we took in case we had to prove that we had taken the correct procedure for removing the tanks. This made a large open space at the frontage for standing area's.

In 1999/2000 we constructed the new bungalow (137 High Street) we walled and fenced off the bungalow for security and high walled/chain linked the area used for standing plant equipment following a very difficult time when plant equipment and wagons were broken into and set alight. Several on the standing area and several on site were torched, together with constant theft of fuel in the early 2000s from the premises, we had advice from the crime prevention officer and police. After further troubles in 2003 we had an armed robbery in the house and personal injuries to two of our children we had CCTV fitted both to the yard area and our home 141 High Street.

I can confirm that the site edged in red on the attached plan has been in continuous use as an HGV and plant hire depot for a period in excess of 10 years.

I can confirm that the approximate dates for the 4 photographs relating to the period 1987 to 2001 have been determined by myself by reference to the particular items of plant and machinery shown. The oblique air photograph was taken around 2001.

I can confirm that the following is a list of Plant we currently own and operate:

1x Catapillar 953 track loading shovel  
1x Stothard and Pitt towed vibrating roller  
1x Hyundi R140LC tracked excavator  
Attachments to 360 excavator ie  
1x Long reach dredging arm  
1x Krupp rock breaking hammer  
1x Power screen power grid soil screener  
Various digger buckets  
1x Coventry climax yard fork truck  
1x Plant trailer  
1x Car transporter

Additional equipment is hired as and when required for specific contracts.

Mr Michael Bailey.



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

DECLARED BY ME AT BARNSELEY,  
SOUTH YORKSHIRE THIS 30TH DAY  
OF JULY 2010 BEFORE ME,  
STEVEN DAWSON, A SOLICITOR.



Steven Dawson LLB(Hons)  
Solicitor

1-11 Huddersfield Rd  
Barnsley S70 2LP

Photo A 1987

*Handwritten signatures*



Photo B 1995

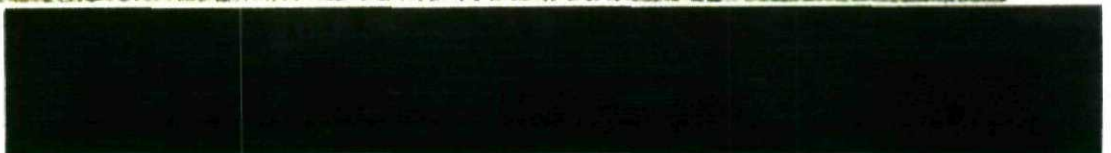


Photo C 1999

*Photo C 1999*  
*[Signature]*

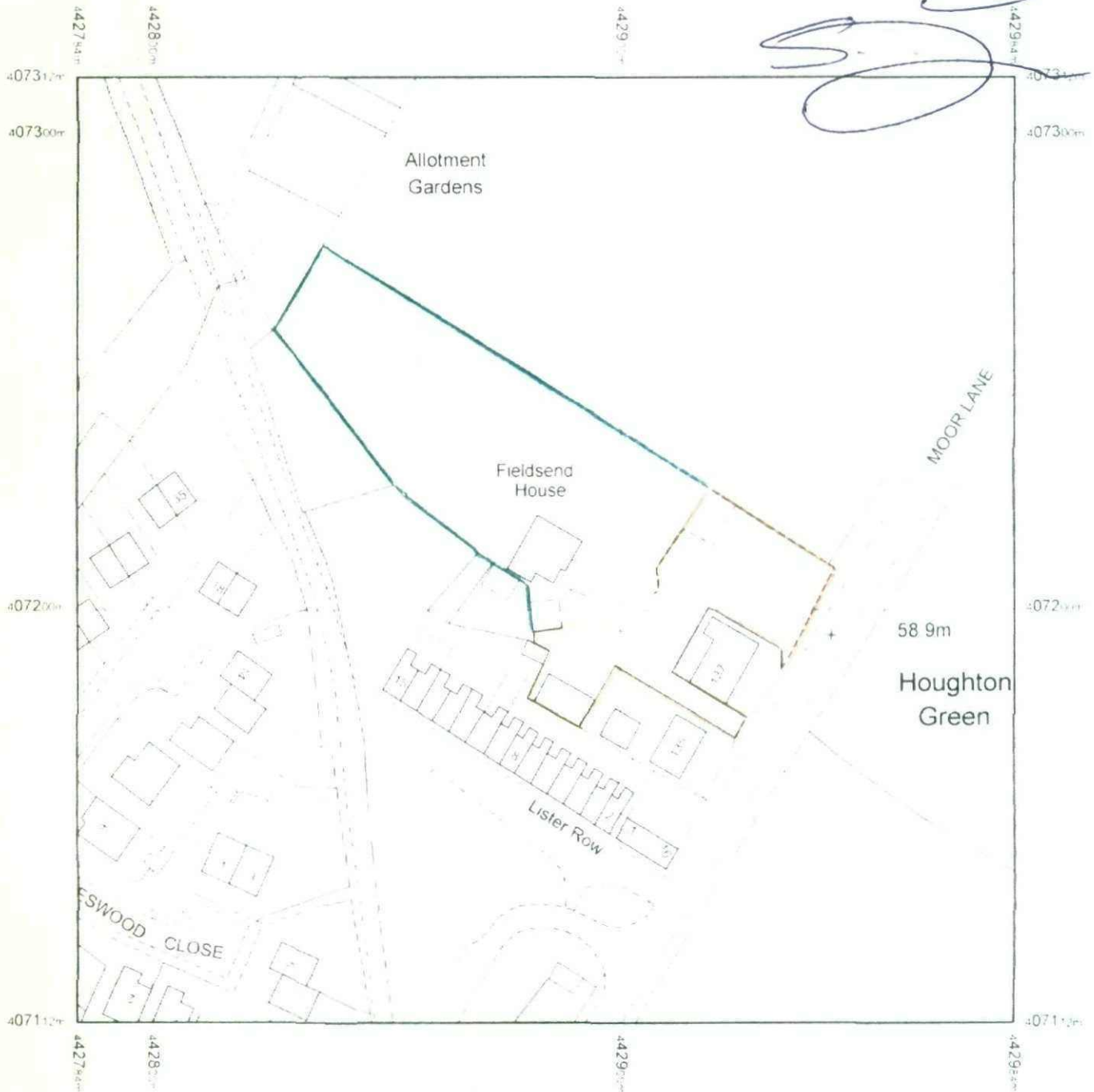


Photo D 2001





*Handwritten signatures and scribbles in blue ink.*



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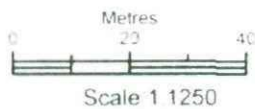
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<b>141 High Street</b>
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