

STATUTORY DECLARATION

I, Christopher Cleverly, Barrister, of Lower Ground Floor, 3 Paper Buildings, Temple, London EC4Y 7EU, do solemnly and sincerely declare as follows:

1. Pond Cottage, 60 The Green, Poulshot, Wiltshire ("**the Property**"), has been in my family for well over a century.
2. From family records and my knowledge of the history of my family, I understand that my great-grandfather, Arthur Frederick Cleverly, lived at the Property from around the time of his marriage to Laura Jane Dean on 1 August 1908.
3. Following the deaths of Laura Jane Cleverly on 9 July 1961 and Arthur Frederick Cleverly on 24 October 1976, the Property passed to my great-aunt, Mary Anne Cleverly.
4. Upon the death of Mary Anne Cleverly on 8 February 2006, the Property passed to my father, Peter Marwood Cleverly. The Property is now owned by my mother, Mrs D. Cleverly.
5. I have personally known the Property since I was six years old, approximately fifty-three years ago, and I have visited it regularly throughout that time.
6. Throughout the whole of my personal recollection, the southern boundary of the Property has always consisted of a substantial timber fence together with mature vegetation and the drainage ditch. The fence has always been of sufficient height to provide privacy to the garden and to prevent people using the adjoining public bridleway from looking directly into it.
7. I have never known the southern boundary to consist solely of an open post-and-rail fence, park rail fence, or vegetation without a substantial timber fence behind it.
8. The fence replaced in 2025 did not create a new enclosed boundary. It replaced an existing timber fence on the same boundary line which had deteriorated with age following many years of service.

9. The replacement of the fence in 2025 was also made necessary by catastrophic seasonal flooding at the Property, originating from the pond adjoining Pond Cottage. The historic drainage ditch serving that pond had become progressively silted up over many years, reducing its capacity, with the result that floodwater repeatedly overtopped the boundary and inundated the garden and, on occasion, the cottage itself. This flooding caused significant damage to the Property and gave rise to substantial repair costs. The replacement fence formed part of the necessary remedial works and did not alter or extend the line or character of the existing boundary.
10. Parts of an earlier timber fence, which I remember from the period when my great-aunt Mary Anne Cleverly lived at the Property, remain in situ at the south-western corner of the boundary. Those surviving sections are of broadly comparable height to the replacement fence and are consistent with my recollection that the boundary has long been enclosed by a substantial timber fence.
11. Based upon my own personal knowledge over the last fifty-three years, together with my family's continuous ownership and occupation of the Property over several generations, I believe that the southern boundary has been enclosed by a substantial timber fence for many decades before my own earliest recollection.
12. My mother, Mrs D. Cleverly, is 84 years of age and lives alone at the Property. The boundary fence provides her with a settled sense of security and privacy, and she has a considerable fear of it being lost or reduced. She has become distressed and anxious at the prospect, particularly given her concern about people approaching or entering the Property at night while she lives there alone.
13. I make this declaration in support of the planning application relating to the Property and conscientiously believe the facts stated in it to be true.

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: ...

This Mon day of 10th August 2026

Signature of Declarant: ..

Before me:

~~Solicitor~~ / Commissioner for Oaths