

WITNESS STATEMENT OF [REDACTED]

1. I, [REDACTED] am [REDACTED] years old seeking permanent planning permission to continue to living at Land to the south of Chear Fen Boat Club, Twentypence Road, Cottenham, Cambridgeshire, CB6 8PX.
2. I live on Plot [REDACTED] with my family. My wife, [REDACTED] and our 3 children who are [REDACTED] years-old, [REDACTED] years-old and [REDACTED] years-old.
3. We moved onto the site around the end of June or beginning of July.
4. The site was ideal for what we wanted as it could fit all our families on and did not need too much work doing to it. There was already existing access to the site so we all chipped in to clean it up and make it liveable when we had nowhere to turn to.
5. I grew up travelling all over the country. I have lived in various places but in recent years find myself return to Cambridge time and time again.
6. Most recently my family and I lived off Fen Road at a caravan park called [REDACTED]. It became overcrowded so quickly, a lot of the plots on site were doubled up and everyone was crammed into small spaces.
7. There was not much room between each caravan, it was most definitely a hazard that kept me up at night as I was uncertain if it was safe with how cramped it was.
8. The site was not the same site we moved onto in the first place, it no longer felt safe. It was not somewhere I wanted to raise my children. We had no choice in the end but to move from here.
9. It was the last option and a big decision to pack up our lives for and move away from somewhere that we once called our home.
10. If we cannot stay here, I do not know what I will do or where I will go with my family. Moving onto Chear Fen was our last resort, I spent time looking for somewhere for us to live but there was no space anywhere.

11. Living roadside is illegal and if we were to do this we would be moved on shortly after arriving. There would be no safety or stability for my family.
12. My family and I would never consider moving into a house even though this feels like it would be the easiest option. It just is not something we would feel comfortable doing. We have all grown up living in caravans and plan to keep it that way.
13. I have my own limited company doing driveways and roofing. The company is going from strength to strength.
14. I used to travel around for work but now I find that I tend to stay more local. Business is going well. I have employees, lots of customers, good reviews, returning customers.
15. Both my children [REDACTED] attend a local primary school. I want them to get a proper education, something I never got the opportunity to get.
16. My youngest will be attending pre-school before then attend the same primary school as their siblings.
17. In summer I make sure that I have some time to attend gypsy and traveller fairs, it is a tradition. I have been to Appleby Fair, Cambridge Fair, Epsom Downs. That is just a handful of them.
18. Sometimes the whole family come, sometimes I go with friends. I have even been to the fairs by myself. It is something we all thoroughly enjoy. It is something I grew up around and love that my children get to grow up with it and embrace our culture.
19. We have integrated into the village extremely well. The village was dubious about us to begin with but have grown to embrace us and welcome us into the community.
20. We are one big family on site, no strangers around us, just the people we know and love. It is a nice feeling knowing we are all safe and in support of one another.
21. I could not wish to have found a better site. We have created a life here, a routine for our children, a base for our family to flourish in.

Statement of Truth

I believe that the facts stated herein are true.

Full name

Signed

Date:

1.4.2025

