

Statutory Declaration

I, **JAMES MARTIN FIRKINS**, of Adastra, Reacliffe Road, Rudyard, Leek, Staffordshire Moorlands, ST13 8RS **DO HEREBY SOLOMNLY AND SINCERELY DECLARE** as follows:-

1. I am the registered proprietor of Adastra, Reacliffe Road, Rudyard, Leek, Staffordshire Moorlands, ST13 8RS (herein after called "the property"). I have been the registered proprietor since purchasing the property in 1981 with my wife Christine Firkins, both of us having lived in the property until the present time.
2. We purchased the property in July 1981, when our eldest daughter Emma was 1, and moved into the property. We were subsequently served a closing order by the Council in 1982 declaring the property unfit for habitation, and we were given a list of works to undertake to rectify this, which we did, and the Closing Order was then Rescinded. We have lived here ever since.
3. Our next 2 children, Samuel and Holly were both born and raised here, in February 1983 and September 1986 respectively. All three of our children have now left home to live their own adult lives. During our time living at Adastra we have added to and extended the property, most recently being in 2014 with the addition of a Porch / Sun Room at the western end of the house.
4. Attached hereto is a an Ordnance Survey extract plan at 1:1250 on A4 marked "Adastra Site Plan", on that plan are labelled the main dwellinghouse "Adastra" and several ancillary domestic outbuildings, the "Annexe" which has been created from a Stone Building, a "Garage" that was built on the site of a wooden bungalow which was in place when we purchased the property, and two "wood sheds" that have been built on the site of another wooden bungalow which was in place when we purchased the property.
5. From my own personal knowledge of the Property I can declare as follows namely:-
 - (a) At all times throughout the period of my ownership of the Property, I have lived at Adastra as my main and only dwellinghouse, continuously and uninterrupted. The Council Tax records will corroborate this fact.
 - (b) The outbuildings shown on the Site Plan and labelled "Annexe", "Garage", "Wood sheds", and "Boiler House" have all been in place and in their current form and dimensions for more than 10 years.
 - (c) The outbuildings shown on the Site Plan and labelled "Annexe", "Garage", "Wood sheds", and "Boiler House" have all been used for ancillary domestic purposes incidental to the main dwellinghouse "Adastra" .

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 by the said)

JAMES MARTIN FIRKINS

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This 7 day of April 2025)

In the County of Staffordshire)

Before me Emma Amat

Solicitor/~~Commissioner for Oaths~~