

Statutory Declaration in support of Aaron Meli's application for a Certificate of Lawful Use In respect of Land Now Known as Cwm Coed y Celyn Farm and Identified in the plan attached hereto.

I, **Peter Gerald Thorp**, of 37 Bryn Road, Loughor, Gorseinon, Swansea SA4 6PG, do solemnly and sincerely declare that:

1. I am aware and have knowledge that Mr Meli has been living on the land at Cwm Coed y Celyn Farm, formerly Ty Crug Farm for more than 10 years. For the purposes of identification I attach hereto a plan of the land (edged red) which is the subject of this declaration marked PT 1. Marked on the plan with an "X" is the approximate location of the roundhouse and Aaron's van.
2. I first met Aaron Meli in the summer of 2008. We met at Tondy House Farm, Bridgend where we were both helping out at a local community project known as Eco Dysgu.
3. After a few years of talking about moving off grid and looking for suitable land, Myself and Aaron Meli bought almost 42 acres at Ty Crug farm in 2012.
4. I saw the work Aaron put into growing fruit on the farm and after a few years there was a well-established crop of soft fruit on the side of the hill.
5. Aaron has been living on this farm since 2012. Aaron bought my share of the land in 2020 and continued to call Ty Crug farm his home. To my knowledge Aaron has not rented or owned any other house since he sold his house in Bridgend in July 2013. It is clear to me that he has been present on this land since then. Not only because the crops and plants remain and would require constant attention to sustain, but also, from our conversations, I know that Aaron is dedicated to this land and his lifestyle on the land. Also, I believe there is no alternative for him. He now also has a partner and a son and remaining on the farm is central to their health and well-being.
6. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of the Statutory Declarations Act 1835.

Declared by Peter Gerald Thorp at PETER LYNN AND PARTNERS on 21st SEPTEMBER 2023

PETER GERALD THORP


[your full name]

before me

a [Commissioner for Oaths][a person authorised to administer oaths][a solicitor][a notary public]

PETER LYNN AND PARTNERS
109 CLASE ROAD
MORRISTON
SWANSEA
SAB 8DY.

This is the Exhibit marked PT1 attached to and referred to in the Statutory Declaration of Peter
D. GERALD Thorp signed before me this 21st day of SEPTEMBER 2023.


a [~~Commissioner for Oaths~~][a person authorised to administer oaths][a solicitor][~~a notary public~~]

PETER LYNN AND PARTNERS
109 CLARE ROAD
MORLISON
SWANSEA
SA6 8DY.