

**STATEMENT OF MALCOLM CHAPMAN**

My name is Malcolm Chapman. I live at 8 Angotts Mead, Stevenage.

Until last year I was the pubs preservation officer for the North Herts branch of the Campaign for Real Ale. In that capacity, I took a particular interest in rural pubs, which are closing at an alarming rate nationwide.

On 22 October 2015, I attended a property auction at the Novotel, Stevenage and witnessed the sale of The Cabinet at Reed to Mr Richard Newman.

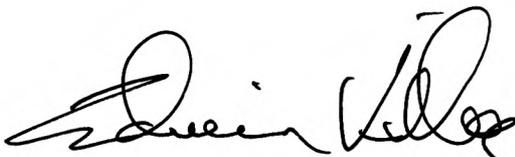
Following the sale, I approached Mr Newman in the corridor of the hotel. I noticed that he was with a woman and a young girl who I imagine was about 9 years old, who appeared to be his family.

I asked Mr Newman whether he would be reopening The Cabinet as a pub. He responded that he would not, and that he intended to turn it into a family home.

I believe the contents of this statement to be true.

Signed 

Date 03/06/2017

Witnessed   
EDWIN KILBY 