



The Famous **TIBBIE SHIELS INN**

Tibbie Shiels Inn

St Mary's Loch

Selkirk

TD7 5LH

info@tibbieshiels.com

Chief Executive
- 3 JUL 2015
Democratic Services

To whom it may concern,

With regard to the usage of our Static caravan over the past few years it was as follows:-

May 2012 – October 2013 Karen Moakes

Karen was a taxpaying employee here at Tibbie Shiels, accommodation in the Caravan formed part of her employment. When Karen found work elsewhere she was given a couple of months grace to find new accommodation.

October 2013 – May 2015 Keith Young, (St Mary's Loch Angling Club)

It is in everyone's interest locally that the lochs here have a bailiff, Saint Mary's Angling club have struggled for years to find anyone local, and they have no accommodation to bring anyone in. Keith approached me, re using the Caravan over the winter 2013 – 2014. It proved a good arrangement for both parties as it contributed to the excellent relationship I have with the fishing club and attracted a good trade from the fishermen. I also host their AGM and fishing competition.

Last summer 2014, I employed another member of staff locally and accommodated another elsewhere so I allowed the fishing club to stay on in the caravan through the summer.

May 2015 – October 2015 Logan and Suzan Hay

Logan and Suzan are contracted to work here full time through this up until the end September. They are on the books and paying income taxes

Logan is working as a chef, and Suzan in the Bar and cleaning.

Logan and Suzan are staying in the Caravan 5 night / week with their Autistic son.

Another casual member of staff Percy also stays from time to time when required.

I can give you contact detail for all members of staff listed above, and St Mary's Loch have offered to write a supporting letter if requested,.

I hope that has covered what was required.

With regard to the future, I intend to continue to use the caravan for the accommodation of staff, with perhaps a look at short term holiday accommodation.

I have no intension of renting caravan long term to anyone, or to anyone who isn't working for or benefiting this business.

Yours Sincerely,

Alistair Moody

Ps. I have read through the concerns of the EYCC, and can clarify a couple of the points raised.

There has been a static caravan here at Tibbie Shiels in since July 1882 when it was purchased by Danny Costello (Owner of Tibbie Shiels) from the Maggot Dam project and put in place by Tommy Hepburn, Crosscleuch Farm. Tommy still resides at Crosscleuch Farm.

Who ever is asserting otherwise is wrong.

All staff that lived in the caravan are / were on the payroll.

With regard to the septic tank. I took advice from both sepa and had a site meeting with a member of planning dept. I have fitted an appropriate sized septic tank with a soak away nowhere near the loch or river. Furthermore when the original complaint was made by SMLSC, I was again visited by a member of planning dept, and he was perfectly satisfied with the arrangements in place.

So why again is this concern being raised by EYCC? Who is it that is concerned about the septic tank?

Ironically the original complaint was made by SMLSC, and in fact it is their septic tank that floods and leaks effluent onto my property and into Saint Mary's Loch I raised concerns in 2013 and again in April 2015, I also provided them with photo's of the effluent and the flooded septic tank. Thus far I am not aware of anything being done to remedy this problem.

The Caravan situated below the level of the road, is green, and surrounded by trees and foliage, and is barely visible from anywhere.

I am happy to provide photos from all angles to support this.

Historically there has been a track from the road down to the river bank, It was used by the farm to access the river. I however widened the track and put in a gate. With the road only serving a farm a part time sailing club, and a small hotel surely there isn't an issue with safety. Tommy Hepburn(Farmer Crosscleuch) who brings the largest vehicles along the road and only neighbour has not expressed any concerns.