

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL
Mr William Friend
East Northdown Farm
Margate
Kent
CT9 3TS

WITHOUT PREJUDICE



TEMPLETONS
SOLICITORS

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Our Ref: DT/101265

19 November 2010

Dear Sir,

OUR CLIENT: MR PETER MILES

We act for Mr Peter Miles of East Northdown House, Margate, Kent CT9 3TS.

Our client's attention has been drawn to following statements from you.

(1) A letter dated 25th January 2010 written by you to all members of the Asset Management Working Group. In this letter you stated that;

"Mr Miles is a former councillor, and stood as a Cliftonville ward councillor in 2007. He and his wife nominated Cllr. Wise (head of finance) in 2007 and Mr Miles personally nominated Cllr. Ezekiel (leader of the council) as a Cliftonville candidate. I believe Mr Miles successfully lobbied his potential colleagues hard for the Coach House, and the parks depot (and land adjoining his in fort hill) to be included in the asset disposal list and that his long term objective has always been to acquire the Coach House at a concessionary price as a sitting tenant or a squatter."

The allegations, in the last sentence, are completely untrue and constitute a grave libel upon our client.

The plain meaning of the statement is that Mr Miles persuaded or sought to persuade, Councillor Ezekiel and Councillor Wise, to act to Mr Miles benefit, by abusing their positions as councillors, thereby acting in a corrupt manner. The statement has the additional meaning that Mr Miles has been dishonest in respect of his dealings as leaseholder of the Coach House. The asset disposal list is, as a matter of fact, drawn up by officers of the council and not members.

(2) An email dated 23rd April 2010, sent by you to Paul Verrall, Colin Fitt and Chris Wells. In this email you stated that;

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Director & Solicitor: Dakshu Thakker LLB(Hons) LLM(Hons)

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"The reason I am so sensitive about "the politics" in my dealings with any part of the TDC, is because over the last 25 years in general, but in particular the last 5 years Peter Miles, seems to have had the full support of his Northdown Ward Councillors, to try and put me out of business, I believe in retaliation over my resistance for his plans to develop the 'orchard', farm road, coach house etc. The resources of TDC have been the primary instrument used by him to bring me to my knees."

Again, these allegations are completely untrue and constitute a grave libel upon our client.

The plain meaning is that Mr Miles sought, whether as a councillor or not, to abuse his position or seek others to abuse their positions, thereby acting corruptly for his benefit. Mr Miles has never sought to abuse his own position as a councillor, his relationship with other councillors or the resources of the TDC in general, to cause deliberate harm and/or financial detriment to Mr Friend.

(3) Oral statements (also in the form of written record/minutes) made by you to the Coach House Working Party on 27th September 2010 where you stated that;

"Over this issue (The Coach House) or any other such property issues be they, officers, council members or his neighbours or those representing his neighbours have been subject to a retaliatory stream of allegations by Mr Miles"

"This has cause great personal stress, cost and anxiety to all those who have been subjected to these allegations. The individuals that have suffered include, a senior partner in a local firm of solicitors, the head of TDC planning department, a former leader of the council and a score of others."

Again, these allegations are completely untrue and constitute a grave libel upon our client.

The plain meaning of this statement is that Mr Miles has made gratuitous, unfounded and malicious allegations against actual or perceived opponents in order to cause the individuals concerned personal harm. The meaning is that in reference to the individuals referred to **who have "suffered"** there was no proper and/or lawful basis for any of the allegations made by Mr Miles.

In a further statement to the Coach House Working Party Meeting you stated that;

"I believe that to continue his (Mr Miles) threats against those calling for resolution of this matter, in fact, amounts to intimidation of witnesses and that is a criminal offence and should be taken into account of by the council officers."

Again, these allegations are completely untrue and constitute a grave libel upon our client.

The plain meaning of this statement is that **Mr Miles has deliberately intimidated witnesses and in so doing has behaved in a manner amounting to a criminal offence. No "threats"**

have been made by Mr Miles against anyone in respect of the Coach House issue. There is no basis on which to state that Mr Miles has committed a "criminal offence."

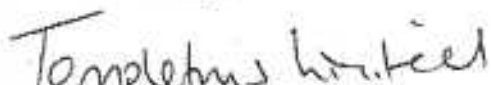
Unsurprisingly, our client's reputation has been substantially harmed by the publication of such defamatory allegations, the nature of which are deeply distressing and embarrassing for him.

We are, therefore, writing to demand that you:

1. Write a letter, signed by you, containing a suitable withdrawal and apology in terms approved by us on our client's behalf. Once approved, a copy of the letter is to be sent to the Coach House Working Party and is to be placed on the website on which the Coach House Working Party minutes appeared. Draft letters of apology are enclosed with this letter.
2. Undertake in writing that you will not repeat any of these or similar allegations concerning our client; and
3. Indemnify our client in respect of costs to which he has been put in the matter.

We must ask you to let us have a reply within 28 days. In the meantime, it must be clearly understood that our client reserves all rights in the matter.

Yours faithfully,


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30 November 2010

Dear Sir,

OUR CLIENT: MR PETER MILES

Thank you for your emailed letter dated 23 November 2010 marked clearly 'Without Prejudice' and copied to a host of individuals referred to therein.

It would appear that given your response and its format you have not taken legal advice upon the implications of our letter dated 19 November 2010. The defamation issues we have highlighted in our correspondence are serious despite your efforts to bring the same under the umbrella of 'general litigation'. Please take legal advice upon the contents of our communication dated 19 November 2010 given that you have failed to specifically address the issue we have raised. Your apology you refer to was pp'd on your behalf and you have not seen the video recording of the CHWP meeting which included the defamatory statements in full. This video recording cannot be corrected as what you said, you said.

Please therefore issue the requested apologies in the form identified and enclosed with our letter dated 19 November 2010.

Yours faithfully,

Templetons Limited

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Director & Solicitor: Daksha Thakker LLB(Hons) LLM(Hons)

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* P.S. I look forward to hearing of your client's withdrawal of his objections to my F.R. of the road,

With compliments

② I look forward to receiving a voluntary contribution towards recent repairs to the road.

BIDWELLS

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Dear Mr. Makler,

Thank you for your ^{letter} letter of 30th Nov. Please find a further signed copy of my recent apology to your client.

In your letter you refer to a Video recording of the CILWP meeting containing the alleged defamatory comments.

I would be grateful for a copy of the video and a transcript of those passages which you believe to be unsubstantiated. I am anxious to reach an overall settlement of all the issues with your client & I believe and hope we are now making significant progress at last.

Yours sincerely
William Friend

*ps

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18th October 2010

Dear Mr Miles,

The Orchard

It appears we have finally managed to resolve the orchard dispute that has been such a contentious issue for so many years

Maintenance of the road

For many years you have been concerned about the lack of maintenance of the road. As we discussed at our brief meeting recently, I intend to carry out a further phase of repair works to the road. You will appreciate that I have refrained from doing so whilst any legal action was still pending, despite impatient rumblings from other neighbours.

The proposed works have been discussed with the highway authorities, with all the other neighbours and of course Mr. Squier. As the road is not a public one, a road closure notice is not justified. The works have been designed to bring all the trafficked road surface up to a consistent standard, which will last for some years to come, and to aid in the drainage of surface water from the trafficked areas which, if allowed to puddle, can lead to the formation of pot holes.

When we spoke in person a few weeks ago you confirmed you had no objections to the repairs and considered them long overdue.

During the works every effort will be made not to cause inconvenience or delay to residents or pedestrians and any traffic that cannot get past, during the works, will be diverted through the farm yards.

You can be assured that I have engaged a range of experienced contractors to assist and that I will personally supervise the entire operation. I have the necessary public liability insurance for this type of work.

I am asking for no payments 'up front' but once the works are complete and the full costs established, I will ask the other road users for a 'voluntary contribution' for a fair proportion of the costs, as I have done in the past.

In a spirit of reconciliation you may wish to pay a voluntary contribution as well when the final figures are known, as I believe it is in everyone's interests for all sides to keep the road in a reasonable state of repair and for the costs of this to be fairly apportioned. I am not seeking to profit in any way from the works but to achieve best value for money possible, and pass these savings on to all the contributors.

The Coach House.

A third issue between us has been the issue of the use of the coach house. I feel passionately that the covenants on the park should be upheld and that the coach house should be used for the type of community purposes intended by my grandfather, such as that outlined in your lease. This should not be seen as a personal matter, I and many other members of the public are motivated by a wish to see these important historic buildings receive the attention and care they deserve.

I have already written to the working party chairman asking him to disregard any comments that I may have made that are in any way circumstantial or unproven. It is of course in the nature of any dispute that conflicting arguments are put forward, and it is for those judging the matter to determine the validity of those conflicting statements on the basis of the evidence before them.

Beyond this I wish to give you my personal apology for anything I or others may have said which you may have found offensive, during the course of the Coach house working party's investigations or hearing, and assure you I had no intention of doing so.

This is a public building and as such its future is a matter of public concern and debate and a legitimate focus of media interest.

I hope that you will now be able to reach an agreement with the Council over the future of the Coach House for the benefit the community as a whole

These three issues have been the core of a dispute between us over many years; hopefully their resolution will pave the way for concluding settlement of all other matters between us.

Yours sincerely



William Friend

