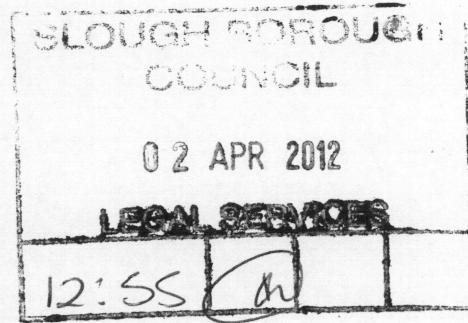


Mrs Kuldip Kaur Channa
Principal Litigation Solicitor
Slough Borough Council
Slough



02 April 2012

Dear Mrs Channa,

Re: Case reference: SBC25

Thank you very much for sending me a copy of the draft report of your investigation regarding a complaint lodged by Mr David Maclsaac (former councillor) against myself and 3 other people. I would like to raise the following points:

In your findings you have failed to mention the distinction between the 2 Planning applications in question. Both the planning applications were not identical. 70 Norway Drive was for a 3 bedroom where as 68 Norway Drives was for 2 bedroom. I voted for both the applications which are evident from the minutes of the planning committee meeting Document 19.

Mr Maclsaac has suggested in his complaint that he saw Cllr Peter Dale Gough being NUDGED to vote. Cllr Dale Gough is a responsible elected member of this authority. If he voted at the planning committee meeting after being NUDGED, it is serious matter and needs to be highlighted and further investigated. Cllr Dale Gough has claimed, "I think that I Abstained (I cannot remember)," document 13. However from the minutes of this meeting, document 19 clearly states that a named vote was taken and Cllr Dale Gough voted for the said applications,

I refute the allegation made by Mr Maclsaac that I shook hand with Cllr Balwinder Bains and spoke to him in the language that Mr Maclsaac did not understand. When I went inside the Council Chamber Cllr Bains had already been sitting there.

I also refute what Mr Maclsaac has said in his witness statement on page 3 paragraph 9 that prior to the meeting I saw Councillors Rasib, Zarait, Bal and Choudhry talking with Cllr Bains and the applicant. Before the meeting stated at no time four of us were together. I went inside the council chamber alone and some of the members were already seated there. I also confirm that I did not see or meet the applicant of the Car Park application. I would like to ask you before you finalise your report please get in touch with the Car Park applicant to ask him if he was present at this meeting on 15 December 2010 or not.


I strongly object to your observation that shaking of hands can be seen as "sealing a transaction". Nothing was done behind closed doors. Outside Council Chamber Mr Qureshi was standing with some people, whom I did not know as I was going in I just shook hands with him and others out of sheer curtsey and a normal tradition of our culture. I categorically state that I did not know at that time the applicant of 68 Norway Drive as mentioned in your observations.

In response to your observation on page 17 paragraph (p) I would like to emphasise that I voted for the planning application of 70 Norway Drive as it was taken up earlier on the agenda and on its own merits. At that point I did not have any clue about what sort of discussion regarding 68 Norway Drive will take place. I did not have any hidden motives as stated in your observation.

Finally I would like to let you know that I will be attending the Standards Sub-committee meeting as and when it takes place. I am standing in the local elections for the Farnham Ward and going to be busy with the electioneering campaign for the next 4 weeks, therefore I would like to request if the meeting is held after 3 May 2012. Please forward my request to the Democratic Services to arrange this meeting anytime after May 3rd.

Thanking you.

Yours sincerely,


Joginder Singh Bal