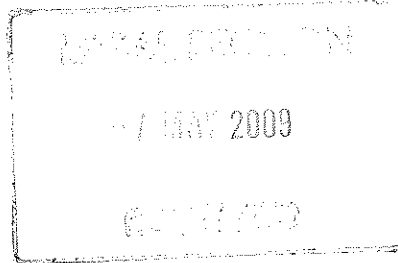


Cornerways,
Lucas Wood,
Cornwood PL21 9PN

6th May 2009

Delyth Jenkins Evans
Monitoring Officer,
SHDC
Follaton House
Totnes TQ9 5NE



Dear Ms Jenkins Evans,

Complaint no. SHO2/160608

Please find enclosed report on the above, as I shall not be attending any hearing due to health reasons.

Yours sincerely,

TONY JAMES

6th May 2009

• TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Dear Sirs/Madam.

Re: Complaint SHO2/160608

Due to health reasons I shall not attend the hearing of the above complaint.

I enclose copies of correspondence from councillors of Sparkwell Parish Council in my support. I have not discussed this matter with the councillors and therefore they are not fully aware of what is going on.

I believe, if asked, County Councillor John Hart and District Councillor Ian Blackler would agree that all my meetings have been conducted in a fair and reasonable way. The aforesaid councillors have contacted me to ask me to re-think my decision on resignation.

I must add that I am sadly disillusioned that my beliefs and understanding of democracy appear to be incorrect. My belief of them is that everyone is entitled to have their own view and opinion that cause them concern and have the right to attend meetings and freely state their views and concerns.

It appears that I should have put a gag on my spouse and should have denied her and the other complainants the right to have their say, on which to them, was a very emotive subject. In no way was Mrs. Fairman bullied or her integrity doubted, I just chaired the meeting as I saw fit, and had no input into the discussion at all, and indeed drew this particular discussion to an end.

On the complaint of smoking and my meetings being a shambles, I believe it is the Law of the Land that smoking is banned in public buildings, therefore I had to leave the building and temporarily handed over the chair to my vice chairman (which I did every time), and as for my meetings being a shambles I would have thought that if this be the case, why was I voted in as chairman for six years in a row and why did the clerk take 63 meetings (when I was present) if these meetings were so bad?

Mrs Groom's comments also reflect badly on the integrity of my fellow councillors, which I also dispute.

SADLY AFTER TEN YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE PARISH COUNCIL AND FORTY-TWO YEARS TO MY PARISH I HAVE DECIDED TO RESIGN TOTALLY FROM INVOLVEMENT. (Apart from Sparkwell Short Mat Bowls, which my Wife and I run and donate all the monies from for the upkeep of Sparkwell Parish Hall. This year alone we have given over £2149.45 and £417 towards All Saints Church, Sparkwell's Flower Festival.

Yours sincerely,

TONY JAMES



ENC. 6

'Lowdamoor'
Hemerdon
Plympton
Plymouth
PL7 5BU
26 April 2009

Dear Tony,

I was shocked and disappointed at the council meeting to hear your resignation with immediate effect. You have been more than kind to me since my very first meeting and have given me much advice and good 'local background' on many occasions. For this reason I felt I must write to thank you for all that you have done for me.

As for the council, I can understand anyone feeling the need to take a break from the constant pressure to conjure a miracle from Devon CC and South Hams DC - some hopes of that. I can also understand your need to stand down from Chairman, a thankless task if ever there was one. As you know I certainly shall not be replacing you.

Most of all of course I shall miss someone who shares a similar sense of humour, perhaps we are both a bit nutty but it does help at times. Anyway, enjoy your break but in a few months time I shall be chasing you to bring your local knowledge and personal network back to the table.

*and I hope you will return!
Best wishes to you and Pam*

Julian

14-10-08

54 NEW PARK ROAD.

LESS MILL

LUYBRIDGE

DEVON

PL21 9EB

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

IT IS MY STRONG BELIEF
THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN TONY JAMES CHAIRS
MEETINGS IN A FAIR AND UNBIASED MANNER. EVERYBODY
AT COUNCIL MEETINGS IS GIVEN A CHANCE TO GIVE THEIR
VIEWS ON ALL MATTERS. I DO NOT BELIEVE TONY JAMES
BULLIES OR INTIMIDATES PEOPLE AT MEETINGS.

Yours faithfully
Andy Harley

ANDY HARLEY PARISH COUNCILLOR

26 Birchland Road,
Sparkwell.

South Hams Council,
Totnes Road,
Totnes.

14th October 2008

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have been a resident of Sparkwell all my life and
I am the longest serving member of Sparkwell Parish
Council.

I have known Tony James for 40 years and have always
found him to be honest and straightforward.

I have served on several committees with Tony and
for quite some years, around 9/10, I would say.

~~For the last few years as Chairman of the parish council.~~

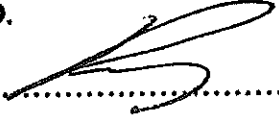
He conducts himself in a proper manner and I have not
witnessed any bullying or action not suited to a parish
council from Tony.

Yours faithfully,

George Small

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I WOULD LIKE TO STATE THAT AT NO TIME HAS COUNCILLOR TONY JAMES ACTED IN A BULLYING MANNER TO ANY MEMBER OF THE PARISH COUNCIL. INDEED, HE ALWAYS GOES "AROUND THE TABLE" AND ASKS EVERYONE PRESENT IF THEY HAVE AN OPINION OR ANYTHING THEY WOULD LIKE TO ADD ON ANY ITEM THAT IS DICUSSED.

Signed 

Dated..... 10-9-08

COUNCILLOR ROBIN MAY

Houndall Farmhouse
Houndall
Luton
Nr Ivybridge

14th October 2008

South Hams District Council,
Pollaton House
Totnes

Dear Sirs,


I would like to state that I have known Councillor Tony James for over 50 years and have never found him to be bullying to anyone. Where this accusation is coming from I do not know. It is absolute nonsense and if anyone wishes to speak to me about him for a reference I will be happy to do so.

Yours faithfully,

Ellis B. Daw.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I WOULD LIKE TO STATE THAT AT NO TIME HAS COUNCILLOR TONY JAMES ACTED IN A BULLYING MANNER TO ANY MEMBER OF THE PARISH COUNCIL. INDEED, HE ALWAYS GOES "AROUND THE TABLE" AND ASKS EVERYONE PRESENT IF THEY HAVE AN OPINION OR ANYTHING THEY WOULD LIKE TO ADD ON ANY ITEM THAT IS DICUSSED.

Signed 

Dated...16...8...2008

THE ONLY THING THAT I DISAGREE WITH IS, HIM LEAVING ROOM TO SMOKE
DURING MEETING, BUT NOTHING ELSE

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN