

From: Christopher Roper
Sent: Sun, 18 Aug 2024 14:21:09 +0100
To: Monkton Wyld
Subject: Simon Fairlie's Acquittal

Dear Trustees

I sat through Simon Fairlie's trial by Weymouth Magistrates, appearing as a witness for the Defence. I noted the Magistrates' kind words in their judgement for my evidence and Simon's ("clear, consistent and honest"), and their absence with respect to the prosecution's witnesses. I also noted the dismissal of the prosecution's request for a restraining order on Simon.

The longer this nonsense has gone on, the clearer it has become to me that the Trustees, who took office in January 2023, had an agenda to change the whole basis on which Monkton Wyld Court had been successfully managed over the previous decade. Part of that agenda was to get rid of Simon and Gill Barron and anyone, who supported them, and to block any attempt to discover what your plans for the future really are.

All you seem to have achieved so far is,

1. Destruction of the Community that existed through 2022, which had survived the worst of Lockdown, and some major financial crises;
2. Destruction of the Kitchen Garden, The Farm (cows and pigs), and the Microdairy.;
3. Loss of the Goodwill of your nearest farmer neighbours;
4. Loss of the excellent reputation MWC enjoyed as a b&b on tripadvisor.

The prosecution of Simon Fairlie for use of the Community Car, which he had helped maintain and fund, was maliciously instigated by the Trustees causing completely unnecessary trouble for the Police and the Court Service alike. What on earth did you hope to achieve? But this question can be asked of so much you have done since the beginning of last year. How much did you spend, and why, on bringing a failed court case against Jon Hills?

I was heartened by Simon's acquittal, as surely you cannot suspect the Magistrates of any bias against you.

In your last email to me, you said there could be no closure so long as Simon (and others) published false accusations against the Trustees on their website. This led me to review the timeline published on the website and I couldn't find the falsehoods you complained of. It reads to me like the objective telling of a sorry tale.

I am not sure exactly when it will happen, but I am quite clear in my own mind that unless you have some nefarious commercial motive for undermining the charity, you are going to fail in your attempts to revive the Community. The likely cause of failure will be financial, finding yourselves unable to meet current obligations and having to seek insolvency advice.

If you reflected honestly on the legal judgements that have gone against you, and the weight of local opinion, you would first seek help from past Trustees to put things back on an upward track. This would almost certainly involve your resignations, and adoption of a recovery plan. It wouldn't be easy, but far better than the present downward spiral.

Yours sincerely

Christopher Roper