

## APPENDIX N

**Lorna McShane**

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**From:** Nicola Kyle-Finn  
**Sent:** 27 March 2014 15:39  
**To:** Lorna McShane  
**Subject:** FW: Complaints - Cllr Robinson Northill Parish Council

Please see email below from Martin.

**Kind Regards,**  
**Nicola Kyle-Finn**  
Admin Support Assistant  
Legal Services

Central Bedfordshire Council, Priory House Monks Walk Chicksands Shefford Bedfordshire SG17 5TQ DX: 153440 SHEFFORD

**Direct Dial:** 0300 300 6095 (Internal 76095) | **Fax:** 0300 300 5398  
**Email :** [nicola.kyle-finn@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:nicola.kyle-finn@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)

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**From:** Martin Leppert [mailto: [REDACTED]]  
**Sent:** 27 March 2014 14:59  
**To:** Nicola Kyle-Finn  
**Subject:** Re: Complaints - Cllr Robinson Northill Parish Council

Dear Lorna

Many thanks for this and for our discussion yesterday.

I have now read through your draft report and am happy for my following comments to be added if you wish or to be brought to the attention of the Monitoring Officer outside of your draft report.

"I am happy to agree with your proposed way forward based on the reasons we discussed and the details set out in your report. The actions taken by the Councillor immediately after the meeting and follow up action by attending a course goes some way to mitigating his actions on the night in question. From the information supplied I think that clearly the history leading up to the meeting, the manner in which it was conducted and controlled, all helped bring about this rather unsatisfactory event. I do not think Councillor Robinson should shoulder all the blame as it would appear he felt he was being obstructed in getting appropriate information from the Parish Council (whom he is a part of), getting unhelpful responses to questions does not, in my experience, help. Nor the fact that only one of the complainants refers to his immediate apology which I feel rather lessens the quality of their complaint. Not in my opinion a very happy state of affairs.

I also feel I must point out that almost a year has passed since the night in question and I can only assume that all involved (except the Chair) remain and that Councillor Robinson has either continued to act in the manner described or modified his behaviour. I note the other case pending which appears in a number of ways linked but I wondered whether you had a view on his current behaviour? If he has moderated his approach then the proposal course of action seems appropriate (if not, then others on the Parish Council will not be that happy particularly given the other case pending which I understand is perhaps of even more of a serious nature). I also think that taking this long to resolve this type of issue is not helpful - these issues are, as I am sure you will agree, better dealt with sooner rather than later. I understand the internal pressures and need for investigations to be undertaken to ensure fair play but a long investigation etc does not in some cases help matters."

May I also take this opportunity just to make a few comments about the draft report? In section 1, para 6, you refer to an email dated September 2014 - this is of course 2013 (and a very detailed content 5 months after the event). In Appendix 1, para 2 should I think read "Matters". In para 5 there are a number of corrections I might suggest but you might want to have another look at that (raised should be raise and Chair should be Clerk). The first part of this para also seems to have got a bit muddled ([REDACTED]).

Hope this is all helpful and happy to discuss further if you need to.

Yours

Martin

Martin Leppert

Independent Person

**From:** Nicola Kyle-Finn <Nicola.Kyle-Finn@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk>

**To:** " [REDACTED] ">

**Sent:** Thursday, March 27, 2014 1:31 PM

**Subject:** FW: Complaints - Cllr Robinson Northhill Parish Council

**Sent on behalf of Lorna McShane**

Dear Martin,

**Complaints about Councillor Robinson - Northhill Parish Council**

Thank you for discussing this matter with me yesterday.

As we discussed I am now forwarding my draft report to the Monitoring Officer and supporting documentation to you for any comments.

Thank you for agreeing to look at this at such short notice for me.

I am happy to discuss further and my contact details are set out below.

Kind Regards,

**Lorna McShane**

Legal Services Manager-Commercial

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