

Directorate of Operations

01 MAY 2008

Received

## Monk Leisure Limited

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18<sup>th</sup> April 2008

Steve Goulette  
Assistant Director of Regulatory & Environmental Services  
5-11 London Rd  
Maidstone  
Kent  
ME16 8HR

Dear Steve

### Re: Soil works at Monk Lakes

Further to our meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> March and subsequent communication with Amanda Fearn & Jon Lawrence, I am writing because I wish to set up an additional update meeting shortly after your return from holiday. Your assistant has kindly pencilled in Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> May at 4pm for this proposed meeting. I feel it would be beneficial for us to meet with both you and Jon Lawrence.

The reason that I propose we meet again so soon is that I am concerned that due to the number of representatives that now appear to be involved, communication is not flowing within Maidstone Borough Council. I am conscious that we should not use up too much of your time, but I think it is perhaps important to clarify what has already been agreed (both with Simon Hughes, and now with ourselves).

We had a visit yesterday morning from Jon Lawrence and his Consultant, Cliff. They were fairly harsh with our site manager, and based on their line of questioning, it appears that they have not been fully informed of our agreements. Jon has been very amenable on the telephone, and I would really like to keep him in the loop.

As you are away until the 1<sup>st</sup> May, I will outline those agreements here so that Mr. Lawrence, who I will copy into this letter, hopefully will not take any further action without consulting you on your return. It was agreed that if we produce an amended plan showing the following suggested changes, and carry out those said changes, that you will consider the new set of plans as, and I quote "minor deviation to the original plans".

Those items are to:

1. Show the ditch that runs along the boundary to the Hertsfield Road side of the property inwards from its current position as to allow room for a 1.5m high bund
2. Show the bund along the full length of the boundary that borders the residential areas
3. Demonstrate the water run-off in the corner where Staplehurst Road meets Hertsfield Road

- Maldstone Borough Council, Planning Enforcement  
Recommendation
4. Move soil out of the 100-year flood plain
  5. Show the 1in8 bank 11 meters back from our boundary's edge


As we expressed in the initial meeting, we are as keen as you that the project is completed quickly. Our sole intention with the business is to supply a first-rate Angling facility. To prove our commitment to this, we started working on your (collective) suggestions immediately. We have done the following since our meeting, and one with Jamie Hamilton of the Environment Agency:

1. Started the ditch work (halted due to excessive rain, but to resume shortly)
2. Moved the soil to behind the 100-year flood line (my husband is meeting with an EA representative today to double check that line).
3. Instructed a surveyor to draw up the plan indicating the suggested changes, a small copy of which I have enclosed, full versions will be distributed on Monday
4. Written to all the haulage companies to alert them of the requirement to produce Duty of Care notes, and instructed our gateman to ensure that he has them for each load (whilst checking the lorry contents thoroughly)
5. Set up 2 road-sweeping contracts and purchased our own roadsweeper as back-up
6. Arranged for a water bowser to be based onsite during all warm weather
7. Put site plans up in the office and in the gateman's hut so that the soil works plan can be studied regularly
8. Set up regular meetings with the contractors to ensure they know exactly where they should be directing the lorries
9. Put up an improved CCTV system

So, in light of these changes, and all within 7 weeks of taking on the business, we feel that we have made a strong start to complying with all your wishes. You can imagine our disappointment therefore in receiving such severe treatment in the recent unannounced visit.

I hope that by the time you receive this you have had a good break away and that you're in agreement to attend my proposed meeting. When you have a moment, please drop me a line to confirm whether you are happy to attend.

Yours sincerely,



Emily Harrison

cc. Jon Lawrence  
Amanda Fearn  
Jamie Hamilton  
Robert Martingdale