

Monk Leisure Limited

Monk Lakes, Staplehurst Road, Marden, Kent, TN12 9BS

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Mr. Steve Goulette
Ms. Alison Broom
Maidstone Borough Council
5-11 London Road
Maidstone
Kent
ME16 8HR

13th May, 2008

Dear Steve & Alison,

The Lake Development at Monk Lakes, Marden

Firstly, thank you for meeting with us on Monday. As we discussed in that meeting, there has been much ambiguity in terms of the definition of the original plans, the requirements of the EA, and that of your Planning and Enforcement Officers. As mentioned, we also feel that there has been a considerable level of modification to the verbal agreements made with us. All work carried out since our original meeting on the 14th March has been as a consequence of those agreements, so we are pleased that you are dedicating some time now to giving us a defined direction. We look forward to receiving the letter detailing your position in full.

Our primary focus here, as before, is to complete the development quickly, and in a way in which is appropriate to both the EA and yourselves. We will instruct our surveyors to produce plans based on the direction you have agreed to give us, following your meeting on Wednesday 21st May with the EA. We hope therefore that the revised plans will incorporate the needs of all Planning and Environmental departments, and that you will honour your commitment to working with us sympathetically and with thought to our time constraints. To reiterate; the plans that we have already submitted no longer show our current development intentions, and we propose to submit an amended version for your approval.

We are disappointed that you have not been able to hold your meeting with the EA on Thursday 15th May as suggested in our meeting; our staffing situation is getting increasingly difficult. One thing you might like to mention in that meeting is that we have appointed a Panel Engineer who is going to review our plans before submission and then visit the site regularly to ensure we are working in accordance with the Reservoirs Act.

When reviewing our revised plans, we hope that you will give some consideration to the miscommunications with the previous owner, our conveyancing solicitor and ourselves, that led all 3 parties to believe Maidstone Borough Council were in agreement with the planned development; in terms of size and shape of the raised area. Please also consider the level of resources required to remove all the soil from that area, and the environmental impact should the development have to cease without the resources left to shape and top soil the banks, line the lakes and complete the extensive planting plan. One other area, in which we would appreciate your contemplation, is to the fact that due to the poor soil quality (with high quantities of gravel) beneath the "3rd lake area" we would not be able to dig lakes at ground level in that space, and therefore we would not have the quantity of angling space that was shown in the original drawings. We would of course be willing to sacrifice this, and to reduce the size of the "3rd Lake area" slightly, to ensure that we keep a distance from the recent flood line, appease the neighbours and still have an area in which to fish.

I feel that it is a shame that your first point of action was to issue a Temporary Stop Notice when we have proactively shown willing to work in close conjunction with Maidstone Borough Council. I can appreciate however that you had a huge level of local pressure. Equally, it has been frustrating that many of my letters, emails and phone calls have been ignored (by both the EA and Maidstone Borough Council) – before and after the Temporary Stop Notice was issued. My husband and I are available on the telephone at any time should there be future concerns of any nature:

Emily Harrison: 07748 983 676

Guy Harrison: 0780 10 10 4 10

Morgan Jones, Site Mgr: 07985 228 233.

I will make contact with your secretary Angela to arrange the agreed meeting. If you could forward the letter outlining the Council's position to us in the next few days and the full list of requirements from the EA soon after your meeting, we will then be able to make the business decisions regarding staff redundancies etc. Time is of the essence on this matter as you can imagine.

Again, we really appreciate your time and consideration to this subject.

Yours sincerely,

Emily Harrison