

Appendix G - Statement of Mr Fred Pavey (Chairman of the Much Hadham Sports Association) (signed and dated 12 February 2016)



STATEMENT OF FREDERICK WILLIAM PAVEY

Before the interview the investigating officer ran through the process that she would follow and explained that a copy of the statement would be appended to the draft and final reports provided to Mrs Farmer, Mrs Bannerman, Dr Baxter and the Monitoring Officer and that it was likely that his statement would get into the public domain.

I Frederick William Pavey, of Sawbridgeworth state as follows:

1. I make this witness statement in respect of the complaints made by Mrs Farmer against Mrs Selina Bannerman and Dr Anthony Baxter.
2. I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true. Except where otherwise stated the facts are derived from my own knowledge or from the documents that I refer to.
3. I am the Chair and the treasurer of the Much Hadham Sports Association.
4. The dispute with the Parish Council has been going on for about 2 years, as they could not accept that the Sports Association were the manager of the Pavilion. The Sports Association has run the site for about 70 years. The Parish Council took it off the Sports Association and carried on regardless. I am not saying that the Pavilion was not a tired building – it was nearly 70 years old but it was serving a purpose - it was a sports pavilion and not a social building. I accept that it was used by the baby unit, as they needed to be helped out and they were happy to use it instead of the doctor's surgery, but it wasn't a social building.
5. The Sports Association had little involvement in the Pavilion renovation project. Mrs Bannerman came to one of the Sports Association meetings once to discuss the plans; I believe the date was in November 2013. Members of football association pointed out that they needed external doors to prevent the away team from accessing across the carpets. They pointed out that there should be an outside door, but we were never really consulted apart from one meeting.
6. We weren't involved with the Pavilion Committee – this was run by the Parish Council. We refused to have anything to do with it. I accept that Sports Association representatives attended one meeting on 2nd July 2015, but because of their attitude we declined to go again. They weren't discussing the Pavilion project during the meeting, they were criticising the Sports Association. At this meeting I stated that the Sports Association was not against providing small sized pitches but that the Sports Association had not yet agreed to provide them. When I said that, John Carey and Selina

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Bannerman blew their top. Mrs Farmer went to the one meeting that I went to on 2 July 2015.

7. I have checked my files and found that I received minutes of two Pavilion Committee meetings - namely those for 11 June 2015 and 2 July 2015. I understand from the investigator that she has seen an email sending the minutes of the September meeting to me. I think they were sent to Alex Farmer and can't remember whether I passed them to the other Association members or not, I probably did.
8. I did not query minutes about the expenditure – I just let them get on with it.
9. I attended the Parish Council meeting on 6th October. It all blew up when it came to the Buy a brick. Someone queried what the money would be used for. Selina Bannerman said that it would be used for paying the cleaner. The buy a brick was to repay the loan. Alex farmer said something that caused a reaction. Cllr Bannerman said "what is she complaining about now". Alex Farmer had asked questions on earlier occasions but it was an unnecessary remark, it was not as if Alex Farmer had been going on and on and on about it.
10. Mrs Bannerman had a bullying sort of attitude. She does not like anyone to contradict her.
11. Then someone at the back of the Hall, who had bought five bricks for £50, said it was to repay the loan. Then another woman who stood at the back said buy a brick was for the repayment of the loan. They were members of the public or the village. Selina came down the room and handed the money back. I think that a complaint was made about that, but that was dealt with.
12. In terms of the locks for the Pavilion I don't know why the locks were changed. The Sports Association had bought the insurance and the same insurers were dealing with it after it had been refurbished. It was never mentioned to us that we had to have different locks. I think they were told by a security advisor who attended that the locks needed to be redone. The Sports Association still holds the insurance; I am unaware whether the insurer asked the question about new locks so I don't know why they went down that road. The premium has increased because of the new value for the Pavilion but the insurance company did not ask any more.
13. In relation to the correspondence with Selina Bannerman, they were disrespectful, especially John Carey. It was unnecessary wording, especially for someone in that position. He couldn't bear to be spoken against. I did not

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complain about the emails, I just ignored them. I never sent rude emails to
Selina Bannerman.

14. I have nothing further to add, other than this is just all a sad episode.

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true.

FREDERICK PAVEY

Dated this 15th day of FEBRUARY 2016

