

Our ref : HC/SC/Martin/1756
Your ref :

Date : 28 June 2018

J E Aykroyd
Chairlady
Knowle Dorridge & Bentley Heath Forum (NP) Ltd
Arden Academy
Station Road
Knowle
Solihull
B93 0BT

Dear Madam

Our Clients : Famous Websites Ltd, Mrs H Martin and Mr S Martin

We act for the above and note that you have allowed to be placed in a prominent position in the entrance of the Forest Hotel at 25 Station Approach, Dorridge, a document headed "Planning Application 2 Station Approach, Dorridge", which in the section marked "Timeline for Planning Application 2 Station Approach Dorridge" dated that on December 3rd trees subject to a Tree Preservation Order were cut down and landscaping removed.

This document clearly refers to our clients who have made a planning application relating to the site concerned who hold a lease upon it.

The contention in this document that trees subject to Tree Preservation Orders have been cut down is defamatory in nature. The reason it is defamatory is as follows :

1. The contention is incorrect. There are no trees subject to Tree Preservation Orders in the vicinity and no trees have been cut down by or on behalf of our clients.
2. Cutting down trees in breach of a Tree Preservation order is unlawful conduct and may be the subject of an enforcement notice and would be a flagrant breach of Planning Control. Those customers of the Forest Hotel may have read the document concerned and would be led to think the worse of our clients and their conduct.

Consequently, we would ask you to take the following action within the next 7 days from the date of this letter :

1. Immediately tell all your members and others on your mailing list retracting the allegation and accepting it was incorrect and demonstrate to us that you have done so.
2. Write to Solihull MBC retracting the allegation and accepting this was incorrect and demonstrate to us that you have done so.



Service of Documents by e-mail is not accepted.

Finally, we confirm our clients require you to provide a written apology to them through ourselves within the next 7 days from the date of this letter and also reimburse them their legal costs which amount at present to £500.00 + VAT and are escalating, failing which our clients will consider issuing court proceedings against you for defamation in addition to a claim for court costs.

We await hearing from you by return.

Yours faithfully


Cottams Solicitors Ltd
hcottam@cottamssolicitors.com



Service of Documents by e-mail is not accepted.

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