

9 October 2018

FOR THE ATTENTION OF:

Woking Borough Council (in its capacity as Trustee of the Recreation Ground Charity, Civic Offices, Gloucester Square, Woking, Surrey, GU21 6YL (by email and mail); and

Edward Hancock, Group Estates Director, Marston's plc, Marston's House, Brewery Road, Wolverhampton, WV1 4JT (by mail)

Dear Joanne and Edward,

OPPOSITION BY STAKEHOLDERS IN THE WEST BYFLEET RECREATION GROUND

It is obvious that no meaningful discussion has taken place between Woking Borough Council (WBC) and Marston's plc. We enclose all correspondence that West Byfleet Recreation Ground stakeholders have sent to WBC and Marston's since July in the hope that council and company are fully aware as to the difficulties (and impossibilities) of each other's positions.

For the avoidance of doubt, we repeat the following:

1. West Byfleet Recreation Ground (WBRG) is land held by WBC as Trustee of the Recreation Ground Charity;
2. There cannot lawfully be any commercial agreement between WBC and Marston's plc for the sale of part of WBRG because WBC does not own WBRG;
3. Only a decision taken by WBC acting in its capacity as the Trustee of the Recreation Ground Charity in accordance with Charity Commission Rules could lawfully result in a sale of part of WBRG;
4. Despite repeated requests, no evidence, in any form, has been supplied by WBC as Trustee of WBRG to support the position that 3. above has taken place; and
5. WBRG Stakeholders have reported WBC as Trustee of WBRG to the Charity Commission (which complaint has passed through the initial assessment process and awaits allocation to a case officer).

We are extremely concerned that neither party seems to understand the seriousness of the positions adopted, whether blindly or as a matter of sheer incompetence, and the ramifications for local residents and company shareholders.

We would like to propose a meeting between all parties (WBC, WBC as Trustee, Marston's plc and WBRG stakeholders) where all parties agree to send representatives who are cognisant of the facts and their legal advisers (whether in-house or otherwise).

Please email your response to Mr Stewart Dick, Chair of the Byfleet, West Byfleet and Pyrford Residents' Association at sjcdick@aol.com

Your sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stewart G C Dick". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Name: Stewart Dick, Chair

For and on behalf of Byfleet, West Byfleet and Pyrford Residents' Association

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wade Pollard". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Name: Wade Pollard, Chair

For and on behalf of West Byfleet Neighbourhood Forum