

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

CLAIM NO. KB-2022-000547

KING'S BENCH DIVISION

MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS LIST

THE HONOURABLE MRS JUSTICE COLLINS-RICE

25th NOVEMBER 2022

BETWEEN

MR RICHARD ALAN PARSONS

Claimant

and

(1) ELIZABETH GARNETT

(2) ALLAN GARNETT

(3) KATIE ARMISTEAD

Defendants

SCHEDULE 1 TO ORDER DATED 25th November 2022

8. On or very shortly before 23 August 2018 the First and Second Defendants posted or caused to be posted to the Claimant a communication a copy of which is at Annex A, which comprised a photograph of a notice board bearing the message spelled out in plastic letters:

*“ONCE UPON
A TIME.
THERE WAS
A TWAT.
IT WAS YOU.
THE END.”*

followed by the typed words:

“Thanks for ruining our holidays with all your noise.

We hope you realise just how much people dislike you and how unpopular you are.”

9. On or very shortly before 20 May 2019 the First and Second Defendants posted or caused to be posted to Jane Ross (who was at that time the Managing Director of CGP) the letter a copy of which is at Annex B which read:

“Dear Jane Michelle Ross,

According to records at Companies House, you are listed as a Director of Coordination Group Publications Ltd, company number 03831170. As such, I am writing to you with a matter of great concern.

It has recently come to my attention that Coordination Group Publications has purchased a property in Broughton-in-Furness for a local single mother to reside in. My initial reaction was that this is a good demonstration of a local company supporting people in the community. However, it now seems to be common knowledge that there is a far more sinister side to this arrangement. The person living in the house is a vulnerable female with a history of mental health issues and alcohol addiction. Everyone’s main concern is the so-called rent-free arrangement that is in place. She may not be paying anything from a financial point of view, but it has become apparent that payment is being taken by different methods by a Mr Richard Alan Parsons. This individual now has such a hold over her life that in order to keep a roof over her child’s head, she has to comply with his frequent “rent demands”. It is sickening and truly abhorrent that this disgusting individual can take advantage of the really vulnerable in society in such a way.

As a Director of the Company supporting this seedy arrangement, it can be argued that you are being complicit by allowing it to continue unchallenged. It is obvious that this is a case of modern day slavery and as such, you have a legal duty is to stop this immediately by referring the matter to the Police so they can investigate further. It may be the case that you are also in a similar position. I only say this because of the time you apparently spend alone together with Mr Parsons (a married man I believe). Please remember there is help available out there for you and possibly others in the community that he is “supporting financially”.

As well as the modern day slavery angle, I am sure you are also aware of the Harvey Weinstein scandal in America. Another case of a rich company owner using his power and influence to target the vulnerable for his grotesque sexual gratification. The #metoo movement that followed helped to put Mr Weinstein in prison but it also shamed the many people who were aware of his crimes but simply turned the other way and did nothing. I implore you, not to be one of these people.

Please help this poor woman either through your obligations as a Company Director or what your moral conscience is telling you. If you can’t then perhaps you should reconsider your position in the company. It would be a sad outcome if you value your career and salary over matters that are truly important. It is only a matter of time before the authorities discover what

everyone already knows and you will be forever regarded as the one person who could have stopped this monster but didn't.

Yours sincerely,

A concerned member of the public

#metoo

#modern day slavery”

10. On or very shortly before 19 December 2019 the First and Second Defendants posted or caused to be posted to the Claimant the communication a copy of which is at Annex C which read:

Mr Parsons – your disgraceful behaviour will soon be made public.

You should be ashamed.”.

11. In or before July 2020, the First and Second Defendants composed or caused to be composed a document (“the Letter”) a copy of which is at Annex D and which read:

“Hello,

I ask you a simple question, “Why am I hated so much?”

Is it because I have destroyed the community and the local economy? I realise the impact of closing Ecclegriggs hotel and Holiday Park had a devastating impact on local businesses. I also appreciate that by greedily purchasing a further 20 properties, this has forced many good people out of the area and removed the number of homes available for local people to live in. This has significantly increased the financial pressure on the local businesses with most now either struggling or up for sale. And let's not forget the car parking debacle, traffic calming, farm disputes and many other dodgy dealings over the years. Am I sorry? Of course not, just incredibly selfish and greedy!

Perhaps I am disliked so much because of the terrible way I treat my staff? Of course, it's no secret that I have a reputation for firing people, that goes without saying. I was giving someone a hard time (a nice chap apparently) when he unfortunately died before I could issue his P45. Yet another mess for my company lap dogs to sort out for me.

Maybe the hatred towards me is due to the way I treat my wife? I accept she wasn't overly thrilled when I decided to hire a slim, attractive, live-in house maid but there were some obvious benefits, well to me any way! Thankfully, this was before my son decided he was too scared to go to school and my daughter became the school bully. Mental issues and downright nastiness, at least my two main character traits are being passed on to the next generation!

One of the benefits of being filthy rich is that I am able to purchase properties for vulnerable single woman in the town. In a true Prince Andrew sort of way, I don't charge any rent, well

not in a financial sense anyway. Obviously, as her landlord it is only right that I got involved on a regular basis to make sure all was well. My loyal team of servants helped with the property purchase and when the sordid truth does come out, yet more money, good lawyers and my wench will fix everything for me – they always do!

Yours

Mr Offensive”