IN THE BIRMINGHAM EMPLOYMENT TRIBUNAL

Case no.: 1318450/2013

Mr Tyson and others

Claimants

-v-

MAG UK Ltd

Respondent

WITNESS STATEMENT OF NEIL DANIELL



- I was a volunteer Regional Representative and member of the Respondent's National Committee for all relevant times. I have been a member of the Motorcycle Action Group UK since 1993 and a volunteer local and regional officer since 1994. I resigned my Regional Representative position on 30th October 2013.
- 2. On Saturday 8th December 2012, I attended the Respondent's bi-monthly National Committee (NC) meeting. This NC meeting was held at Shrewley Village Hall, Shrewley, CV35 7AN. The meeting commenced at 10.00am and was 'Chaired' by Director Selina Lavender, who had been co-opted into the role of Acting Vice Chair. The meeting progressed with the various agenda items of a usual NC meeting.
- 3. During the 'Campaigns' section of the agenda, presented by the Claimant Mr Tyson, I noted that a Director, Mr Liversidge appeared to display disinterest in the presentation by reading and from time to time noisily rustling and turning the pages of a newspaper. My impression of this was it was very dismissive of the presentation by the Mr Tyson. During various parts of the meeting the same Director made critical

comments of the information being presented and the persons presenting, including the Claimant's input at various points.

- 4. The NC meeting continued and the comments from the Director, Mr Liversidge became more critical and insulting to 'The staff', referring to the claimants Mr Brown, Miss Smith and Mr Tyson. I cannot recall the exact words but the nature of the comments were criticising and accusing the staff of stalling progress on things.
- 5. At one point towards the end of the agenda item concerning the Respondent's 2013 Annual General Conference, Mr Liversidge made a heated and abusive statement directed at the claimants Mr Brown and Mr Tyson. Again I cannot recall the words used as I was taken aback at this outburst. The basic subject was accusing the Claimants of deliberately attempting to disrupt progress and stated that they were "dictating" to the Board and the NC. I felt this outburst from Mr Liversidge was abusive, intimidating and unprofessional. This was made worse, as in addition to the NC and Board Members present, there were two Observers from the membership also present at this NC meeting.
- 6. Following the NC meeting I had the opportunity to talk briefly with Mr Brown and the Mr Tyson and I informed them of my feelings over the outburst.
- 7. Following this NC meeting I have seen a few emails sent by Mr Liversidge to the members of the NC, where he makes comments concerning all 3 claimants. One of these emails was sent on Thursday 11th April 2013 wherein the Respondent says "It is time to take sides. But anyone who wants to destroy MAG, ANYONE as these people do is going to have to butt heads with me. I am not walking away or backing down. They want to line their own pockets and to carry on lining their pockets as they have in the past. That is the kind of people they are" (pages 543 and 544). I took this to mean that the Respondent was accusing the staff of taking or making money at the Respondent's cost, and anyone who took a counter position to the Respondent would have a physical altercation with him.

This statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

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NEIL DANIELL

DATE