

I have the following questions for the entirety of Saltash Town Council:

1. Will the town council launch their own investigation into whether Cllr John Brady, Mayor of Saltash, purposefully misled the council regarding the referring of matters to the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman?
2. If it is found that Cllr John Brady, Mayor of Saltash, did purposefully mislead the council and, therefore, lied to the council and public, will the members of Saltash Town Council request a vote of no confidence in the mayor?
3. Cllr John Brady has brought the council into disrepute and has damaged the relationship between the members of public and the council. This is with regards to the Remembrance Parade shambles. Will the council request a vote of no confidence in the mayor?

Yours sincerely

Matthew Coot

Dear Mr Coot,

Thank you for your letter and putting forward your questions.

I replied to your last letter to Council on a 1-1 basis, but on this occasion, I have decided to include all Councillors into my response for the purpose of clarity.

My response is as last time;

I am quite happy to meet with you to discuss the points you have raised and am more than happy to re-submit my request to the Ombudsman. I asked you to contact the Guildhall to name a date and time to meet and invited you to bring a 'friend'. This offer still stands.

I will re-submit my letter, which went in the form of an email and this will be done this week and sent by post. I will ask the Town Clerk to email you to confirm the letter has been posted.

The offer to meet still stands so please take this up.

As to the question about the Remembrance parade, I most certainly will not give you the satisfaction of an answer, as there are many questions to be answered and investigated.

In closing I take serious offence at the inference that I misled Council, and I ask that you send a fulsome letter of apology to me in the next 7 days.

Yours Sincerely

John Brady

Dear Mr Brady,

The reasons I refused the meeting were simple:

1) you had a choice to refute the claims that you treated me with disrespect when the Cornwall Council standards committee carried out the initial investigation;

2) you had a choice to apologise to me in writing when the investigation found that you had treated me with disrespect and that you did breach the code of conduct. You failed to do so;

3) when the standards committee again carried out the investigation into the disrespect of not apologising, you had a choice to engage in this. In fact, the report showed that you refused to apologise to me;

4) the meeting, that you have suggested, would cause me more emotional anguish due to your behaviour in the emails that the original complaint was about and throughout my time on the council. The meeting would not bring me any resolution to the problems as it is far too little too late. Why would I put myself through more upset?

You were found to be in breach of the code of conduct and had been instructed to apologise to me in writing. You refused to do this. This meant you were in breach of the code of conduct, again, and therefore the council were instructed to censure you. You asked for a review of this investigation. Cornwall Council found no reason to review it and that was the end of the matter. The recommendation to censure you stands. So, I say it again, you had your chance. Now is too little too late.

As for apologising for suggesting you have misled the council, I will not do this. I have made a suggestion, based on evidence, that it seems you have misled the council. I supplied evidence of the matter with the investigation I carried out with a FOI request of the ombudsman, with an investigation of their published data, and with feedback from the Corporate Governance Officer of Cornwall Council. There is currently no evidence to suggest that you have referred this matter to the ombudsman. Please, do provide this evidence. I shall then reconsider my claims. Until there is evidence, I will do no such thing.

Unless you are supplying evidence, please do not contact me directly again.

Yours sincerely,

Matthew Coot

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