

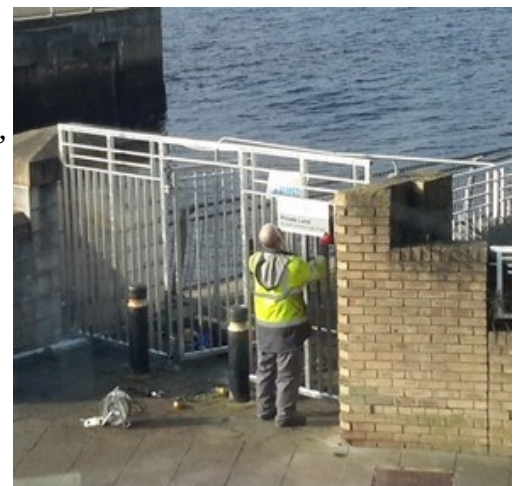
### How UK Docks got their longer shed.

I mention the gate off Long Row first because two of Council officers who helped UK Docks get their longer (and taller), shed gave the footpath round the UtilityWise conversion to its developer. The many references below are to counter any challenges to what I have written and I make no apologies for using so many. I hasten to add they are considerably less than the of number of denials or evasions, of the approved height of the shed built by UK Docks on their slipway off River Drive, that have been made by the Council. They were made by various South Tyneside Council officers [over many years and began on September 9th 2013](#) – please see the opening paragraphs of Part 1.

You can see from my introduction to [Shed and Corruption, Part 9 to Nichola Robason](#), on August 10th that the Council had shifted the argument away from the fact that the Council had not taken any enforcement action to whether the shed was approved or not.

In a similar way, with the row about the gate I realised exactly what the developer (Norman Fada?), was doing and it reminded me very much of Hoogstraten's Palace in Sussex and the way the footpaths around it became blocked. One might disagree, like me, with the gate being there but it is well made and put there to stay because he knows the Council will argue, not that it blocks a public footpath but whether it was a public footpath or not.

I had suggested, in the Cautionary Tale that the Council would treat the Friends of Market Dock's recent Petition, with the same contempt as that [shown to the Petition raised by those protesting about UK Docks'](#) Shed off River Drive in 2014. The residents of Greens Place and Harbour View, are still owed an apology from the Head of Development Services for repeating the lie that the shed had approval.



In his response to the Petition he had [repeated the lie that the shed was built to the approved height](#) and you can tell it was a lie by examining the approved plans. The ones that have not been approved contain a mistake in that they show both ends of the shed to have same height of 15.5m. It appears that Mr Mansbridge was being rather economical with the truth when he hid the wrongdoing of his planning officers by the misrepresentation of the planned height and it gets worse as you will see.

Let me explain:- The Council knew, since mid September 2013, that the shed was taller than planned because they had retrieved an approved drawing from 1996 which contradicted the unapproved drawings given to the Principal Planning Manager by UK Docks about a week before and they forced [UK Docks to stop work on it](#) for over 2 months. It appears that the measurement was done by the Principal Planning Officer, not by building control. Where was the Building Inspector?



*The exposed end is 15.5m x 13.1m.  
Planned height and width of it is  
12.7m x 12.2m*

Work resumed on it shortly after the meeting held between the Council and the Tyne Gateway Assn at the Town Hall, 25-Nov-13, where with those with an interest in the shed's survival won the day by accepting the false claim that UK Docks had approval for it. There was only one dissenter at the meeting.

That was me, and I, like the other local residents who were not at the meeting, quite reasonably claimed that the shed was taller than planned. The rest of the people at the meeting were using words like legal and compliant with misrepresentative drawings to skirt round the fact that it did not have approval; being taller by nearly 3m than planned. It was also nearly a meter wider than planned. The [dimensions of height and width can be calculated from the specification of the frames](#). No-one, in seven years, has questioned the dimensions that I marked on 8296/14.

The Tyne Gateway Assn had been raised from dead as it had been dormant for a few years, but the residents did not realise that it had been taken over by those with an interest in the shed's survival on the slipway off River Drive. It does not take much work this out because UK Docks resumed building the shed very shortly after that Town Hall meeting and it reasonable to assume that they were waiting on the outcome of it before they proceeded. Work had been stopped for months while the question of the planned height supposed to have been resolved.

From: [cllr.john.anglin@southtyneside.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.john.anglin@southtyneside.gov.uk)

To: daw50nmdj@hotmail.co.uk

Date: Sun, 1 Dec 2013 18:37:40

Subject: RE: TGA - Town Hall Meeting 25 Nov

Michael

I took no minutes as is customary at these informal meetings.

For your record I am sure all would agree:

1. The Exec representatives of the Group accepted that the construction had been made legally as per drawings seen ~~~~.

It was not resolved and Councillor Anglin took no minutes! The Tyne Gateway Assn (TGA) had a fair idea that the shed was about 3m taller than planned as the only drawings made available to us before the meeting appeared to have been doctored and certainly not been approved. Neither UK Docks, Cllr Anglin nor Messrs Haig and Watson appeared to aware that the gradient (2.7m) gave scale to any side elevation of the shed.

The Executive representatives may have accepted that the construction had been made legally but I was not one of them. I was also aware that to say the shed was 'legal' was not the same thing is saying that it had been approved. One would assume that Mr Cunningham would have shown us approved drawings rather than ones that supported the fraud and as a planning officer should have queried the use of 'legal' by Mr Ken Haig. The following extract was [taken from the minutes of the TGA, 25-Nov-13](#):-

*KH advised that they had seen the [plans which were date stamped 1996](#), the structure is 15.5m. Proper drawings were on file and there is nothing illegal about the structure.*

The date stamped plan to which Ken Haig had referred not been approved unlike another plan from 1996 that had been retrieved from the Council's archive at the same time. That plan, 8296/2 had been approved and showed 12.7m at the point where Mr Haig claimed 15.5m. I wish to confirm that it was he and not Mr Cunningham used the expression 'legal' to mean approval but Mr Cunningham used the word 'compliant' to [imply the same thing, 20-Dec-13](#):-

*Mr Dawson – once again – I have measured this on site and have copied the 1996 plans across to you twice already (attached again for your use) and I have explained during our meeting that the base and height of the structure are compliant...this is the end of the matter as far as I am concerned Please do not email me again.*

It would appear that they were saying this to cover for the building inspector had who taken a blind eye too the fact that the shed was taller than planned and ignored the fact that there was a spare set of footings 5.5m uphill from the last frame erected.

Compliant with an unauthorised drawing! I make no apologies for emphasising what was implied at the meeting by referring to 'The Inescapable Truth' blog to dismiss 8296/1A, the drawing to which Mr Haig referred. That blog also confirms what I was saying about the TGA meeting, 25-Nov-13.

About two weeks after the meeting the approved drawing 8296/14 appeared. It was drawn on the basis that the road end was about 12.7m or 12.8m and was released when the [decision notice ST/1146/13/COND was published](#) and I used it to raise a complaint that the shed was wider and taller rather than the one for which they had permission, 8296/2, because it shows the planned width as well as the height. One could reliably use it, as I said before, because the draughtsman had obligingly given the specification of the pillars and beams.

This was covered in great detail in my letter to Melanie, which became *Shed and Corruption – Part 1*, and I wish to draw your attention to the final paragraph:-

*When they heard we were trying to resurrect the dormant TGA they spotted a weak spot and Cllrs Anglin and McMillan went into action but what they and Messrs Watson and Haig did not realise was that there was a fatal flaw in their scheme. Mr Cunningham had to either to admit we were right about the shed or commit fraud. He chose the latter . . .*

I noticed when reviewing my letter to Melanie that there were a few missing links and one of the most important was Mr Cunningham's immediate response to the [complaint raised with Planning Enquiries raised on January the 10th](#). It was made three days later:-

[Mr Dawson, I responded to you this morning as follows:](#)

*The queries that you raise are not new, indeed I have been repeating my response to them for some time now, and you will recall that I explained the planning aspect of the Council's position to you regarding this development during our meeting. - the queries were raised by Melanie and they were not answered which was why we raised the TGA. She was referred to the complaints procedure instead. His first response to her enquires was to produce the drawings given to him UK Docks to fraudulently misrepresent the height of the shed.*

*This meeting included the chair and representatives of your residents group, and Councillors Anglin and McMillan. This meeting was requested by the residents and it was arranged by the Councillors. My understanding is that the responses that I had provided to you at this meeting enabled the matter to be closed. - his response was to fraudulently misrepresented the height of shed by passing us flawed plans following the meeting. No wonder he wishes the matter closed.*

*May I therefore suggest that you speak with the Chair of the residents group in respect of the points that you have raised below, as these have already been discussed and explained.*

*If you are still not satisfied with the Council's response then you should use the Council's complaints procedure which has 3 stages. - Mr Cunningham had bought the first stage of the complaint to an end as soon he wrote this three days after it was raised.*

*Peter Cunningham*

*Principal Planning Officer*

Please note, besides those 3 misrepresentations about the Complaint, you will find no record of it having been registered. [What was registered was my response to Mr Cunningham's back-pass](#). I had noted from the guide, How to make a Complaint that if the response to it was unsatisfactory one could refer the matter to another officer and a day later I did. [We were then at the Second stage of a formal complaint:-](#)

*Thank you for your message. As you no doubt observed my message was sent to the Planning Department in general and not to you specifically ~~~*

*Therefore until I have some satisfactory answers to my very reasonable questions I do not consider this matter closed. If you are unable to supply me with answers to my questions could you please pass the issue to someone who can. - M Dawson, 14 January 2014.*

The complaint of January 10th was finally removed from the records when Job 248789 was created by the Planning Manager, Mr Atkinson, as it referred to the escalation of 14th January and not to the complaint itself. Like Mr Cunningham at the meeting in November he had the choice of admitting we were right about the about the shed or commit fraud.

The Planning Manager chose the latter and [on the 15th January 2014, he wrote:-](#) Drawing no. 8296/14 is a recent drawing submitted to discharge condition 4 and it shows the strip curtain doors fixing details. One cannot argue with that, nor with the height of the gable end shown on the on the copy I sent to to planning enquiries but one can argue with the lie:- *The dimensions of the steelwork have been checked on site and they are in accordance with the measurements shown on the approved drawings* because they are [not in accordance with the measurements shown on 8296/2](#).

As I said to Melanie in Shed and Corruption Part 1 page 4: “The Planning Manager, Mr Atkinson did nothing to resolve the situation because he sided with Mr Cunningham by saying the shed had been approved:-

*Approved Drawings*

*The following are details of the relevant drawings in the Council’s possession.*

*The drawing that was submitted on 11th April 1996 with the application is numbered 8296/1A. That shows the overall height of the structure as 15.5m above the foundation level at the landward end.*

[When I pointed out that drawing 8296/14 referred to the river end](#), the Planning Manager conceded that the shed was indeed nearly 3m taller than planned and after that concession, it followed that the Residents held a meeting in the Little Haven Sailing Club, 3-Mar-14, where we decided to raise the Petition and [I was asked to request the removal of the shed](#) which I did the following day.

That should have been the end of the shed but it is still there because the Head of Development Services, Mr Mansbridge, thought otherwise and repeated the Planning Manager’s earlier view of the 15th January in his response to our Petition, May 2nd 2014:-

*The approved dimensions of the steelwork are: • Proposed height 15.5m at the River Drive end. The gradient of the slipway is 2.66m over the length of the shelter. This would mean the height at the riverside end would be 18.16m above the slipway;*

The Planning Manager had conceded, in February 2014, “*the current structure is not built to approved plans*” but when it came to the response to our Petition the Council had reverted to what we told by Mr Cunningham at the Town Hall meeting in November 2013.

When [Mr Atkinson recorded 248789 in April 2014](#) he had effectively deleted all references to the correspondence relating to the shed from September 2013 to mid January 2014 by the remark: “*see email to planning 14/1/14. Mr Dawson asking various questions relating to the ongoing development at the slipway, River Drive, South Shields.*”

Mr Dawson **and** all the Local Residents. He removed everything from the public record: the resurrection of the TGA and the events leading to the Town Hall meeting of 25-Nov-13, the Town Hall meeting itself and misreporting of it by Cllr Anglin, Mr Cunningham’s fraudulent misrepresentation of the shed’s size following the meeting. It had simply been wiped out as well as

the record of Mr Cunningham's misconduct. So was the fact that, we were by then, at the second stage of a formal complaint about the shed's size.

There was much that Cllr Anglin and the Planning Manager had to answer for; the former for arranging the meeting at the Town Hall and the latter for establishing the falsehood that the shed height had been approved and preparing [the ground for Mr Mansbridge's phoney Stage 2](#).

He had asked his Secretary, Leanne Bootes, to prepare the ground further to hide the misconduct of his staff and possibly his own (see Escalate box: *Ombudsman*). Notice also, that my letter of the 3rd March asking for [the shed to be removed was wiped from the records](#). In it, I had said, besides the request that something be done about the shed: "*Thank you also for confirming that the Slipway Shed is not built to the approved 1996 plans.*"

There are 2 approved drawings from 1996 and one had no dimensions, the other has only one and it is the height is the landward of the shed and is given as 12.7m. Instead of the shed being removed Mr Mansbridge removed my letter and I find that he has ignored my comments about the shed's size that had been [misreported by the Gazette](#) on April the 1st 2014. On the 4th, I wrote:-

*To cap it all there was an article in the local paper showing most flattering photograph of the offending shed saying that it was only 36ft high. The author of the article may have got away with saying that in September but not now. You should know that it is over 50 ft high and that is what we have been saying for months now. It's planned height is about 42ft.*

He ignored it by passing it back to his Planning Manager and he then ignored my complaint that his planning officers were not being honest about the shed [and abusing the complaints procedure](#):-

*If I had followed the suggestions by these officers there would have been no admission by the planning office that the slipway shed on River Drive had not been built to plan and it ill behoves you to refer my email to the formal complaints procedure as well.*

Not only had he discarded my complaint about the conduct of his planning officers, he had repeated the fraudulent misrepresentation originally made by Mr Atkinson, which he repeated in his response to our Petition and [I wrote on the 9th May](#):-

*Thank you for the letter in response to all the various questions that have been raised with the Council in recent months, including a petition which many local residents have signed. I would like to question your basic assumption in the letter:-*

*The approved dimensions of the steelwork are:*

- *Proposed height 15.5m at the River Drive end. The gradient of the slipway is 2.66m over the length of the shelter. This would mean the height at the riverside end would be 18.16m above the slipway;*
- *Proposed length 22m;*
- *Proposed width 12.2m.*

***This is not true, there is no supporting documentation which says that the approved height is 15.5m at the River Drive end. All indications are that the approved height is 12.5m which one can get from scaling the portal details in the Drawing 8296/14***

[On the 12th May 2014, Mr Mansbridge sent a letter](#) thanking me for a Stage 2 complaint which was a complete fiction. There was no letter on the 8th, there was no need for it and one was never sent. There was one on the 9th May, written in response to misinformation given out by him in response to our Petition. The one of the 2nd May was a charge that his planning staff were abusing the complaint procedure and by the change to 253539 he wiped out all that occurred in January-March.



I did not see the fictitious [STAGE 2 COMPLAINT - Development at UK Docks Ltd, River Drive](#) for some weeks as I was lodging in Amble at that time but when I collected my post I realised at once that like Mr Atkinson rewriting the history of the complaint to hide the misconduct of Mr Cunningham and Mr Mansbridge was rewriting history to hide the misconduct of Mr Atkinson and that of himself:-

- 1) he passed the letter/email, [4-Apr-14, back to his Planning Manager](#) so that he did not have to respond to it;
- 2) the letter/email, [2-May-14 was mainly about about the misconduct of the two planning officers](#), Cunningham and Atkinson;
- 3) the last 9-May-14, [not the 8th, focussed on the dimensions of the shelter](#) and here we see a repeat of the fraudulent misrepresentation again:- *The approved dimensions that I state are those which are annotated on drawing number 8296/1A which was submitted to the Tyne and Wear Development Corporation on 11 April 1996 ~~~  
The height of the steelwork at River Drive is clearly marked as 12.5m+3m (total 15.5m).  
The difference in height of the slipway over the length of the shelter is marked as 96.1-93.444 (2.656m). 15.5m plus 2.656m gives the height at the riverside of 18.156m. I attach a A1 size copy of this plan.*

I repeat; if one looks at plan 8296/1A you will see that it is not approved and it shows both ends are marked as 12.5m+3m which is why it was not approved. The shed does not slope down towards the river so one is wrong and it is the one at the landward end and 8296/2 confirms this.

[In the email where the Planning Manager](#) conceded that “the current structure is not built to approved plans”, we were discussing the height with reference to the approved drawing 8296/14 but he then added a piece of misinformation:- *The engineer chose to show a gable elevation of the structure (not drawn to scale) on the same drawing.* That I did not correct him, did not make it true.

When Mr Mansbridge said it is not to scale he was simply telling a lie: *The engineer also chose to include a gable elevation of the structure on the same drawing (8296/14) but that was not drawn to scale. If it would help I would be more than happy to meet with you to show you the relevant plans and elevation as this may clear up this specific point.*

I did accept his invitation and came down from Amble to a meeting at the Town Hall to explain how I determined the planned height to better than 1% from the approved drawing 8296/14 but as a precaution, Mr Mansbridge had informed me that Mr Atkinson the Planning Manager would be at the meeting, I wrote to the Chief Executive the day before explaining very clearly the sequence of events and [making very clear the variation from plan:-](#)

- *On the 5th Sept 2013 work started at UK Docks premises on River Drive to build a slipway shed length 22.3m, width 13.1m and height at end facing River Drive 15.5m.*
- *On 27th Sept an application was received in the planning office from the agents for UK Docks, Messrs Maughan, Reynolds Partnership Ltd to meet conditions of a previously granted application ST/0242/96 for a slipway shed length 22.3m, width 12.2m and height at end facing River Drive 12.5m.*

It transpired it was a wise precaution as the drawing was not produced at the meeting, Mr Atkinson produced drawings 8296/1A and 8296/2 instead of 8296/14 which he said was just a sketch, another lie. I pointed out 8296/1A showed both ends of the shed have the same height and which promptly brought the meeting to an end. Had I had walked into a trap, [which I described in a blog?](#) No, because I had reset it in my defence because I took the precaution of writing to his line manager, the Chief Executive Officer, the previous day:-

*As early as 5th Sept the Principle Planning Officer was quoting in emails "Subject: Approved boat repair shelter at Tyne Slipway, River Drive, South Shields", and at a meeting with residents on Nov 25th he implied that the structure was legal. Indeed the same officer, when he wrote to me on the 20th Dec was still saying the base and height of the structure are compliant. It took a further 7 weeks of detailed correspondence from me to convince the Planning Manager that the structure was not built to plan. If you doubt this then please ask him to make [our correspondence via email up to 13th Feb 2014 available to you](#).*

Mr Atkinson did not bring 8296/14 to the meeting because it would have proved that we were correct when we said that the shed was taller and wider than planned. To avoid lying as her predecessors had done [Ms Hamilton avoided the height altogether](#) but she did say, "Mr Mansbridge stated in his Stage 2 response that the engineer chose to include a gable elevation of the structure on the same drawing but told you this was not drawn to scale. There is no truth in that and you can check it for yourself and it is very easy to verify because the gable end is drawn to a scale of 1:100.

If any of the people had conceded that we were right, it would have shown immediately that their predecessor(s) had been lying and should have been subject to disciplinary procedures, under the Nolan Principles if nothing else, and that went all the way up to the Chief Executive. It shows you how much regard they all have for any principles at all and especially those set out by Lord Nolan.

It appears they all knew that was that there would be someone at the end of the internal complaints process, who was quite happy to give misinformation to the Ombudsman and we were told that it was a Senior Planning Officer in paragraph 31 of her findings. [Notice the repetition of the deceit about the height](#), made by Mr Atkinson in response to the claim made made by me a week before :-

*In January 2014 the Council wrote to Mr X about this. It said the overall structure on the plans is 15.5 metres at the land end and the foundations are 2.656 metres lower at the river end due to the gradient.*

I could see the way things were heading with the Ombudsman and [wrote to the MP for South Shields, 31-Mar-15](#), but someone had noticed that I had had taken up lodgings in Amble and so Anne-Marie Trevelyan became involved and we discover why the Council go to such lengths to mislead the Ombudsman. It was me moving about, not the shed. I returned to South Shields to sell my house in Greens Place and did not take up permanent residence in Amble until 2017.

With regard to the shed, [Anne-Marie summed up the situation very well](#), 1-Jun-15, but she was not to know that the shed was built on a slipway with a gradient of nearly three meters:-

*It relates to a boat repair shelter at Tyne Slipway, River Drive, South Shields which Mr Dawson tells me was constructed outside the remits of the approved plan, which was a stated height of 15.5m. According to my constituent, the actual height of the structure is some 3 metres higher, yet was signed off by the Council regardless.*

I needed to clarify this point and wrote to [Anne Marie and copied the CEO the 9th June](#), 2015:-

*You have not specified that the stated height (15.5m) is of the river end of the shelter and it is likely that, Mr Swales, if he follows the arguments of the Planning Manager and the Head of Development Services before him, will say it refers to the road end.*

It was one of my better efforts and you will see that I had boxed Mr Swales into a corner. The same officers who had lied to the Ombudsman had to mislead Corporate Lead by repeating the same ones that they had told the Ombudsman a few months before to [preserve their jobs and others](#) was

deceptively simple. It was to instruct his Corporate Lead to accuse the good people of South Shields of making allegations which she did with gusto. She wrote to Anne-Marie, [without copying me on the 25th July 2015:-](#)

*The matters and allegations raised by your constituent are well documented and have been subject to a number of enquiries from Mr Dawson and other local residents over a lengthy period of time. The matter was ultimately referred by way of complaint to the Local Government Ombudsman, the outcome of which was delivered on 14 April 2015.*

*The Ombudsman did not uphold the complaint, finding that the Council had acted appropriately in our approach relating to the planning application and subsequent action, full details of which would have been sent by their office to Mr Dawson.*

I was only copied Appendix 6 and suspect that the contents of Mrs Johnson's main letter to the Anne-Marie was why she hesitated to contact me. First Mrs Johnson is virtually accuses the Residents of lying and then had finishes her letter:- *Please do not hesitate to share this letter with your constituent.*

I was not to discover see what Appendix 6 said until January 2016 and my request since to see the contents of the main letter and the other appendices have been ignored and it is obvious why. One can only guess but I can confirm that requests to find out what had been said about the shed were ignored, another case of hesitancy, and it was only because the planning officer [Mr Simmonette was using Customer Advocacy to evade the truth](#) about the height, please see page 2, shed that I discovered what the Corporate Lead had told the MP for Berwick. I suspect it would have been something like:-

*The Ombudsman found no fault in how the Council determined the permitted height of the landward end of the development was 12.5 metres plus 3 metres.*

Gill Hayton, Deputy Monitoring Officer Legal Services, 14-Dec-18.

[Or the refinement made by the Monitoring Officer in late December 2019:-](#)

*I understand that all complaints procedures regarding this matter have been exhausted both internally within the Council and externally.*

No matter, I had decided to seek legal advice as soon as [Alison Hoy's email of the 9th December](#) arrived and received it by the 26th January 2016 but events overtook me because South Tyneside Council gave permission, less than a week later for UK Docks to extend their shed and Mr [Mansbridge lost no time in letting me know about it.](#)

I was told the visitors gallery was packed out, on February 1st 2016, with UK Dock supporters, that the proceedings were a farce and that and fact that the shed was nearly 3m taller than planned was not reported to the planning committee at all. On the 9th December Alison said:- *"Your email of 4th December refers to not being satisfied with the responses to the second part of your earlier contact to the team on 30 September. This was regarding the planning enforcement aspect of the existing boat repair shed.*

I explained all this in my letter to Paula Abbott on 26th July 2021, [Second Phase of the Shed's Development](#), where I made it very clear that my letters, 30-Sep and 4-Dec 2015 to Garry Simmonette were not about enforcement and you can see that he has used Alison to avoid any discussion about the height of the shed. If you care to look at at either you can confirm for yourself that neither mention enforcement:- [toGS3009.pdf](#) ~ and ~ [GSextshed0412.pdf](#).



If Alison had not been prompted to excuse Mr Simmonette's decision to ignore my comments about the height of the shed it is unlikely that I would have discovered that the Corporate Lead was accusing us of making allegations about the shed. As it happened it gave me enough time to establish without doubt why a Senior Planning Officer was [giving misinformation to the Ombudsman](#) and it looks like Mr Swales had instructed his Corporate Lead to accuse us of making allegations so that UK Docks could get their longer shed.

To put it bluntly UK Docks got their longer shed because the Council was happy to lie to the Ombudsman and the Corporate Lead and this method of avoiding the truth was refined to a personal attack on me [when I wrote to Mr Swales on the 8th July 2016](#):-

*I ask you to look again at this because there is a clear contradiction between what the Council were telling the LGO and what is known. Why your staff should misrepresent the facts to the LGO is for you to determine. That they have misinformed the LGO should be admitted and corrected and that is what this letter is about.*

[First, she says, 1st August 2016](#):-

*There is no evidence to suggest that there has been deliberate misinformation provided by Council officers to the Local Government Ombudsman, Neither do I have evidence to question the content of the Ombudsman's investigation.*

After that outright lie, the letter from Peter Dunn & Co. refers, [she repeats on October 5th 2016](#):-

*because I have "submitted repeated complaints, essentially regarding the same issue, after our complaints process has been exhausted.*

If you check the records you will find only one complaint to the Council about them misleading the Ombudsman about the height and as I said to [Paula Abbott on the 21st June 2021](#):-

*there has only ever been one complaint to the Chief Executive that his staff have been giving misinformation to the Local Government Ombudsman and one complaint that his staff have been lying to the Ombudsman is a singularity.*

I go on to say in the same letter that and you only have to look at the approved drawing from 1996 to verify the truth of it for yourself:-

*it is entirely reasonable to claim that a structure is taller than what had been approved when it is nearly 3 meters taller than planned.*

It looks from here that no-one comes out of this saga with any credit and the low point has to be Corporate Lead who on the 5th October 2016 said:- *"I am writing in response to your letter dated 2 September 2016, which I received on my return to work 12 September 2016. She ignored most of what I said in that letter and did [not pass on the fact that told her that I had received legal advice](#):-*

*The Solicitor's view, off the record, was that UK Docks, in saying they were building the shed to approved plans when they were not, was probably criminal fraud but the police were unlikely to act on a planning issue. He also suggested a civil court may not be the best way forward but he did say that in his view we needed to raise a new complaint. The new complaint being the misinformation and/or misrepresentation by the Local Authority in supplying information to the LGO. It so happens I'm using the UK Docks development but I could be using the application for demolition of the Beacon for instance.*

Mrs Johnson did not raise a new complaint and the [copy I had sent to Customer Advocacy appeared](#) to have been passed back to passed back to her for disposal and it ended up like the original complaint, in the waste bin.

UK got their longer shed because:-

1. Mr Mansbridge invented a Stage 2 complaint under the response 253539 to enable the Council to give misinformation/misrepresentation to the Ombudsman;
2. Messrs Mansbridge and Simmonette conspired to withhold vital information from the Planning Committee of 1st February 2016;
3. Mrs Johnson for Mr Swales when she misled the MP for Berwick by saying:- *The matters and allegations raised by your constituent are well documented and have been subject to a number of enquiries from Mr Dawson and other local residents over a lengthy period of time.*

If the approved plans say that the shed is nearly 3m taller than planned it is [more than an allegation to say \(paragraph 34 of the findings\)](#):- *The Tyne and Wear Development Corporation as planning authority approved this. The current Council had to accept this as the approved height.* It is simply a lie and it appears that the Ombudsman was told it by a Senior Planning Officer.

When I reviewed the findings and by the time I got to paragraph 37 of them the inconsistencies came over more than anything else, they are ludicrous and I added the 'smiley' about the time I decided to embark on the series "Shed and Corruption" and I have not finished yet.

There are no approved plans that give a height of 15.5m for the shed at the landward end and 8296/2 shows it should be 12.7m at the 5th frame and to get round that conundrum Mrs Johnson had to accuse me of making allegations – *plural: a claim or assertion that someone has done something illegal or wrong, typically one made without proof.* If you look at the evidence you will see that is Mrs Johnson who is making the allegations, not me.

Before UK Docks started to assemble the frames for their shed in 2013, I had discovered that Mr Cunningham had taken Readheads Landing away from the People and given it to the Port of Tyne estate and when I became aware of [stopping off of the paths between the former call centre and the river](#) I looked into how it had been done and discovered that Messrs Simmonette and Mansbridge have been applying the same underhand method to give them to the developer of the call centre some five years later.

Helen Lynch and Peter Mennell are the Council officers in the latest scam which involves the loss of the footpath round the former call centre car park and the link between the four of them is the Architect, Minchella and Co who provide site drawings with the footpaths removed. I've noticed that in the drawings they have provided for development of the Amble Boat Co, that the footpaths have also been removed.

The former are in a Labour Constituency and the latter is in the President of the Board of Trade's and to avoid any conflict of interest I may need to get Anne-Marie Trevelyan onside and for that we will need a letter apology from the Council's Corporate Lead for accusing the good citizens of South Shields and I of making allegations and I look forward to receiving one in the New Year.

Yours sincerely



Michael Dawson