



PARK HOME RESIDENTS ACTION ALLIANCE (PHRAA)



MEDIA REPORT No. 10

www.parkhomesphraanews.co.uk

Established 2002

www.thephraa.news

Further interesting information on the operations of a well-known Park Owner following up on two previous reports published by "Private Eye" and reproduced in full earlier on this website (Media Reports Page) which clearly illustrates that nothing has changed over the years since the article below from 2000 and now in the latest "Private Eye" articles in 2017. Submitted from research by Colin Packman, President of PHRAA September 2017

10/03/2017 Stories of life on sorrowful sites | Society | The Guardian

theguardian

Stories of life on sorrowful sites

Lynne Wallis
Wednesday 12 July 2000 15.49 BST

The battle of the bills

Richard Carrington moved on to Drayton Park, near Chichester, West Sussex, three years ago under the site management of Barry Weir. Carrington queried a **£70 bill for two weeks' water supply**, and then requested that a quarterly bill be itemised because it was so high. He was met with a "Don't you trust me?" response. **When he pressed for itemisation, he was charged £70 for the paperwork.**

"Our agreements with Weir, such as they are, say commodities are supplied at cost, but he's charging £1,000 a quarter instead of the actual £250," claims Carrington.

Carrington was taken to court by Weir for non-payment of charges. But while the latter brought in a Lincoln's Inn barrister, Carrington could not afford a lawyer and so represented himself. The verdict was found in favour of Weir and Carrington paid up, but says he plans to seek a judicial review.

Weir owns seven sites in West Sussex and charges VAT on domestic sewerage at Drayton Park, even though it is zero-rated. He has applied for planning permission for permanent homes there, which is baffling for the residents, who believe they have security of tenure. The war with Weir has taken over their lives - hardly the relaxed retirement some of them had hoped for.

The Guardian was told that Weir had embarked on a world tour in May and was thus unavailable for comment.

The repairs run-in

Penny Summerland is disabled and lives on the Clearways Park site in West Kingsdown, near Brands Hatch, Kent. She bought her home in 1986 and was told it had a new roof. It didn't. In fact, it leaked. She was also told the walls needed repairs to the tune of £30; she says she had to spend £1,200. She tried to sue for misrepresentation and won £9,000 plus costs at Dartford county court, but the site owner dissolved his company while litigation was underway.

Summerland, who stresses that she has no grievance with the present site owner, has lived under four different regimes since her unfortunate purchase. "One of them wanted to 'survey' my home to check for repairs," she says. "I refused access and took them to court and won, but they were still granted the survey. They do this so they can get you on some little thing and then charge you for works. "I wish I'd had a survey done when I bought my home, but I was persuaded it wasn't necessary. I can't sell now. My home is worthless, so I'm stuck here. But meanwhile I'm going to carry on fighting for a better deal for park home residents."

One site owner tried to force a friend of Summerland's off a site for having a mobile home four inches too wide. The resident threatened legal action and the owner backed down. The following week, Summerland claims a huge bonfire was lit dangerously close to his home.

"It's a common way of threatening residents," he says. "People have had their homes burned down for trying to stand up to owners. They do it to let us know who's boss."



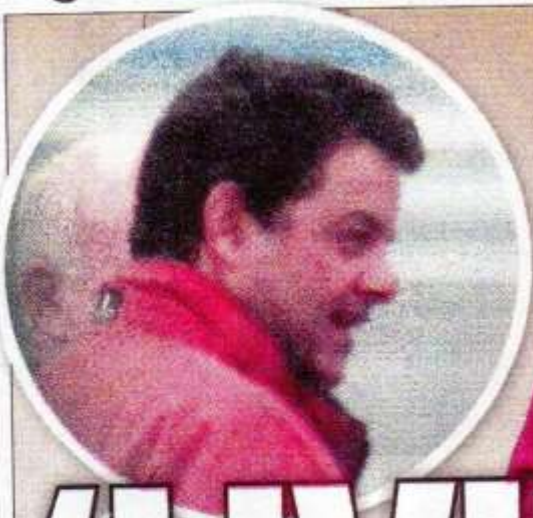
Know that feeling very well as our site owner used it on me first by stacking six large Propane Gas bottles against the bedroom wall of my home which included a full two gallon can of petrol together with other inflammable items. *Picture shows the one left after I had moved five which revealed the can of petrol hidden between them.*



Fire which burned for two days destroying a large double unit home with contents 10 feet from my home. *Picture taken from bedroom Window. See below Ron Editor September 2017*

SEE FULL REPORT IN MARCH _APRIL 2013 EDITIONS OF PHRAA NEWS

against landlord at mobile home park



INVESTIGATION: Ron Joyce, with his melted bin, and other residents of Silver Poplars Park, have complained about park owner Chris Nedic, inset left.



'LIVING IN FEAR'

POLICE are investigating allegations by residents at a Midland mobile home park that their landlord and his family are intimidating them.

A series of complaints have been levied against Christopher Nedic, and his sons, who run the Silver Poplars Park, near Codsall, Staffordshire, by the people who live there.

Ron Joyce, aged 73, is among the residents who have reported incidents to the police, Staffordshire County Council, and Staffordshire Fire Service. He has set up Park Home Residents Action Alliance to monitor the problems.

Now the agencies have joined forces to seek a resolution to the issues that have been raised about the park.

Ron has lived at Silver Poplars for 20 years and has claimed that he and other residents live under 'constant fear' from the 'dictatorial rule' of Mr Nedic, who took over ownership of the site in 1999.

Problems raised by the residents include water supplies be-



RISK: Ron says gas canisters were dumped near this fire.

NEWS REPORT BY KATY HALLAM

ing turned off, paths being pulled up and piles of dirt being dumped in their gardens.

Of particular concern is a fire on February 28.

Ron said that gas canisters had been left next to his home while it blazed.

He said: "I had a hell of a job moving the canisters. I have compiled a report of all the problems we have had."

A spokesman for Staffordshire Police said: "We are aware of the

issues at Silver Poplars park and have been working closely with partners, including fire and rescue, environmental health, South Staffordshire Council and the Crown Prosecution Service, to agree a joint plan.

Incidents

"A police investigation into behaviour at the park, which includes historic incidents reported to the police and partner agencies, is ongoing.

"Local police officers are also regularly visiting the site and are liaising with local residents to deal with any concerns they may have."

The Sunday Mercury contacted Mr Nedic and his wife Julie, who said the allegations were 'all lies'.

The couple live next to Silver Poplars in a massive pile named "Southfork".

The Government passed new legislation aimed at giving mobile home residents new rights to protect them last month.

The Mobile Homes Act 2013 includes new regulations to prevent site owners being involved with the selling or buying of mobile homes and stop them from imposing unexpected charges.

Mark Prisk, the Housing Minister, said: "We've closed the loopholes to root out the rogues."

But Ron, who is also disabled, said he doubted the new laws would help the residents at Silver Poplars.

He said: "In many ways, park homeowners will not be much better off. Indeed in many instances, they will be worse off.

"I have just started to compile a report on how we can expect the new legislation to effect the rights of homeowners."