

**STATEMENT
BY
MR ANDEW COWLARD**

My name is Andrew Cowlard and I am the Chairman of the Racing Club Warwick who occupies premises on the Hampton Road Warwick.

I was present at the meeting of the Warwick Community Forum on 4th October 2012 as I was aware that an application for funding, which had previously been deferred, was being made on behalf of the Jackie Turpin Amateur Boxing Club. The application was made by Lydia Turpin, an Officer of the Boxing Club.

When I arrived at the meeting I spoke with several persons who I know including Councillor Mrs Bromley and I sat on the designated table with Councillor Mrs Bromley as she is my Ward Councillor, together with others. I cannot recall precisely what we discussed but there will have been a reference to the Warwick Racing Club and to the application by the Boxing Club. My interest arose from the fact that the former Boxing Club had occupied a building on land leased by the Warwick District Council to the Racing Club Warwick which they vacated without warning and without paying their contribution towards the services as was customary.

Lydia Turpin was questioned in turn by Councillor Mrs Bromley, myself and Neil Kenton. Councillor Mrs Bromley asked questions relating to the previous Boxing Club, the present Boxing Club, their respective management, financial position and about grants that they had received from the Warwick District Council. Lydia Turpin did not answer the questions and they were therefore repeated without direct or satisfactory replies. I then asked a specific question about a grant that I understood had been made to the Boxing Club in the region of £10,000.00 and how the monies had been applied. I also made reference to the monies owed to Racing Club Warwick. Lydia Turpin did not answer the questions. Lydia Turpin was finally questioned by Neil Kenton who again raised several of the points which had been raised by Councillor Mrs Bromley and by myself. The replies were unsatisfactory.

I understand that Lydia Turpin alleges that Councillor Mrs Bromley has breached the Councillor's Code of conduct by showing her disrespect in the manner of the questioning. I do not believe that Councillor Mrs Bromley's questions or the manner in which she made them was disrespectful. The questions were directed in a public forum to a person applying for public funds. The questions were all directed at the governance, management and financial stability of the Boxing Club, particularly in light of its earlier history albeit under a different name. There does appear to have been a continuity of officers who would therefore have been aware of the earlier events.

Signed: Andrew Cowlard

Date: 24th October 2013