

Dear Sirs,

We are the owners and directors of Harden & Bingley Park Limited.

Goit Stock waterfall where the tragic incident occurred, is on our land.

We and our residents were devastated to hear about the death of Mohammed Abu Farhan and once again our condolences go out to his family and friends.

We would like to place on record our upset at the way we have been criticised by the report and the media and in particular the BBC.

We were not approached by the Coroner prior to the report being published and we do not even know whether there was actually a site visit. If there was a site visit, by them why we were not involved ?

We dispute certain issues raised in the report.

For example, we dispute the fact that signage was obscured by vegetation. This can be proven by the BBC TV report on 31st March when the camera actually zoomed in on the signs and they were clearly visible. We mentioned this when we were asked by the BBC for our comments. They issued a report on their local website and quite disgracefully chose not to include this important point.

The signs were placed on that rock face over looking Goit Stock waterfall so that they could not be vandalised.

Vandalised signs have been a major issue on the park for many years.

We have had to cope with an unprecedented number of visitors to the waterfall since the start of the pandemic. Unfortunately this has increased the amount of anti-social behaviour including drug dealing, used needles being left in the woods, fires being lit, barbecues, all manner of unpleasant waste and litter being dumped. It would appear that word has spread on social media that we are a "leisure park", with shops, toilets etc. As a consequence we have visitors not just from the immediate area but from all over Yorkshire and beyond. We are not this type of park. The woods, beck and waterfall are privately owned with public footpaths. There are no facilities.

Our residents our mainly elderly and vulnerable people and they have felt threatened by all the anti-social behaviour.

Our local Councillors, police and Community Officers are aware of the situation but, like ourselves, feel completely overwhelmed by the situation. We are powerless to do anything and the police's resources are too often overstretched to deal with all the anti-social behaviour.

However, we will comply with the Coroner's recommendations and erect some more signs around the area of Goit Stock waterfall. We will forward photos of the proposed signs and where we intend to put them (see attachments).

Please look at our proposals and let us know if they are acceptable. We can then get the signs made and erected in the appropriate places. We must reiterate that the signs will be vulnerable to vandalism and consequently the relevant authorities need to consider other actions to prevent any further tragic accidents.

Regards,

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Directors of Harden & Bingley Park Limited.