

TOWN CLERK BRIEFING NOTE

83 TOWN HALL COTTAGE

On 25 July 2006 the Council let the Cottage to 3 employees of The George for a period of 6 months. Because I had concerns about the prospect of three unrelated 'younger' people residing in the property it was agreed that Alex and Katie Clarke would act as Guarantors and would pay the rent on their behalf.

Enquiries in response to some observations that the Cottage was looking like it contained bed sits and appeared to contain more than 3 residents revealed that there were now five people resident in the Cottage and not one of them was an original (official) tenant. Although it is a 3-bedroom house, the Lounge is being used as a bedroom.

I have advised the Guarantors that it may be that the Council does not wish its property to be used in this way and, in the interim, have asked them to provide me with a list of residents – including any changes as they occur.

The Guarantors consider that having fewer than 5 George employees within the property would not be viable. I have explained that, if the Council is minded to continue with such an arrangement, a new Agreement identifying The George/Clarks as the Tenant would be required. (The alternative is the Council regularly issuing new Tenancy Agreements in response to changes of 'transient' residents).

I have been informed that, some time prior to my appointment, the Council declined to make the Cottage available for occupation by staff of The George.