Statement by Jill McGarrigle, Vice Chairman, Friends of Bath Recreation Ground, to The Trustees on 28th January 2009.

Mr Chairman , as a Friend of The Rec and a Bathonian , born and bred ,I welcome the little bit of common sense from the Charity Commission , which it appears is beginning to prevail in respect of the future use of The Recreation Ground .I am however dismayed that although a large amount of information on this decision and how it was reached, appears to be freely available to the media and those perpetrating the misuse of the charity's property , this information has been withheld from Bath citizens

as the true beneficiaries and owners, despite requests to the Trustees for it to be made available under the Freedom of Information Act. The reason quoted for this refusal was the Council's need to "protect it's commercial position in this matter while the options are considered and progressed."

Why is there all this secrecy surrounding the Charity Commission's decision and it's reasons behind it? Is there a BathNES and Bath Rugby plc consortium being proposed with perhaps shops and bars etc being included in the proposed future development of the Rec? Is this the commercially sensitive information that the Trustees and the Council is attempting to prevent from coming into the public domain?

Contrary to common belief neither the Charity or the economy of Bath will collapse if Bath RFC is unable to play on the Rec 20 or so days out of the 365 which make up a year . Apart from the breaches of contract and trust which are being defiantly perpetrated by the Trustees , BANES council's whole position is seen to be grossly influenced by inappropriate conflict of commercial interests and unlawful anti -trust maladministration

Notice is today given to the Trustees that judicial proceedings are being commenced immediately ,to remedy the apparently unlawful breaches of contract and trust at all levels, to which these violations relate .

Please enter this statement into the permanent records of this meeting.