



**Action for Botton**  
**The Vicarage**  
**Danby, Whitby**  
**YO21 2NQ**  
**action@actionforbotton.org**

12 June 2014

Mrs. F. Chadwick-Histed  
Chair of Camphill Village Trust  
The Kingfisher Offices  
9 Saville Street  
Malton  
North Yorkshire  
YO17 7LL

Dear Mrs. Chadwick-Histed,

### **The Future of Botton Village**

We are writing to you as a result of our real concerns that the current actions and intentions of Camphill Village Trust (CVT) seem likely to lead to the end of the community model for living with people with a learning disability, which has been a beacon locally, nationally and internationally for over 60 years.

We are a group of experienced professionals with a deep knowledge and love of Botton and we have come together out of a determination that the ethos and essence of Botton will be maintained and continue to shine a light into the provision of care.

We have investigated the way your charity has been operating recently and believe that the spotlight of public attention needs now to be focused on your activities. We are aware of the reluctance of Co-workers to see publicity or legal proceedings as it could profoundly damage the very community we wish to protect, but our observations are that CVT is determined to proceed on its course and that there is no alternative. The Co-workers are also feeling threatened by the way that your Charity uses its position and they feel disempowered by your actions. For this reason we believe a group such as ours, which is not subject to such threats or intimidation is essential.

We know that a response from you to a letter from Co-workers is awaited and hope that there will now be a change in your approach. If this is not the case, we must make it clear that we intend to alert the public both locally and nationally, directly and through the press. We will also assist any individuals in legal action if that becomes necessary. So that you can be aware of the reasons we have reached the above conclusions we enclose a copy of our intended information sheet and press release. We do this as a matter of courtesy and so that, if you deem it necessary, you can bring our attention to anything you may suggest is a misconception. We believe we have ample documentary evidence to support all the contentions we make.

We now await hearing from you but, should you not respond, we will proceed on the basis that you accept the factual basis of the release we intend.

Yours sincerely,

Neil Davidson, Chairman  
Action for Botton

CC: Mr. Huw John, Chief Executive CVT; Mr. David Knowles, CVT Manager Botton Village