


From: Ben Wood [redacted] 
Subject: Feedback on Ross Mackinnon
Date: 12 October 2020 at 18:55
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]

BW

Lynne, Claire,

I hope you don't mind me reaching out, but I am growing increasingly disturbed by the vindictive and passive-aggressive tweets from Ross Mackinnon towards Steve Masters.

I will make no secret of the fact that Steve is a friend of mine, but I also want to make it clear that although that is the case, I am a long-term Conservative voter, from a Conservative-voting family and I regularly disagree with many of the positions that Steve takes on policy and other matters. That said, I do respect him for being a politician who is not afraid to stand up for what he believes in – something that seems like it is increasingly rare these days.

Over the last few months, as an active Twitter user, I have had to watch from the sidelines and see Mr Mackinnon take pot-shots at Steve which I believe are increasingly unbecoming of an elected official in his position and I am of the growing opinion are detrimental to the Conservative philosophy of promoting open and constructive debate.

I include just two of the recent tweets that I think are a good example of this below, however there are many others.

You may or may not agree with Steve's actions, but he remains engaged as a local councillor, is popular with many in his ward, and although he has been taking part in the HS2 protest, has maintained a near 100% record in terms of council meetings etc.

Furthermore, although Mr Mackinnon has repeatedly sniped at him, you will notice that Steve has not been drawn into a too and fro. This is something, as a friend, I have advised him to avoid, but equally, I know if I was on the receiving end of this on-going campaign I would find it extremely upsetting and demoralising.

I have copied in our local MP, Laura Farris and also John Redwood, who I believe that Mr Mackinnon works closely with. I am not sure whether they are aware of this nastier side to Mr Mackinnon's online persona, but it I do wonder whether his energies might be better served channelled into more constructive posts.

I hope you take this email in the spirit it is sent, but I believe the actions of one individual are now starting to have a detrimental impact on the perception of the wider Conservative family in West Berkshire and below.

Best regards,

Ben Wood
[redacted]
[redacted]



Cllr Ross Mackinnon

Steve's missed out some details:

- TVP strongly refute the allegation
- Steve narrates the video of his mates screaming "SCUM" at the police
- Activists are trained to lie about police assaults

That's a bit more complete.



Steve Masters

This occurred while William was supporting an action on the #Wendover bypass several weeks ago. He was delivering coffee and offered no resistance. How he managed to remain calm is a testament to his calm nature.
theguardian.com/uk-news/2020/o...



Cllr Ross Mackinnon

Puzzling from [redacted]. Tells [#itvnews](#) he's been in the woods every night for three months, but amazingly by day made it back to Newbs to report fallen trees and heroically detect a theft of lead from a castle before publicising it. Does he think his residents are stupid?



Masters, 50, a Green Party councillor for W
hire Council and the oldest protester to be



Secured as best we could after speaking to [@TVP_WestBerks](#) were unable to attend. Big concerns that further damage will be caused or

ing up a tree, said he has slept in the wood
night for the past three months.

ctivist said he is passionate about the cause
se he wants his three grandchildren to “grow
from the effects of climate change” which h
res “will not happen if projects like HS2 are
ahead”.

further access will result in potential
injures.



Appears an apple tree has collapsed
across the towpath by [#Newbury](#)
lock on the [#KennetandAvon](#). Will
also report formally. [@NewburyTC](#)
[@WestBerkshire](#)
maybe of interest.