CHESTERFIELD AND DISTRICT CIVIC SOCIETY

G. Pickford Esq. Service Director for Highways Derbyshire County Council County Hall Matlock DE4 3AG

Dear Sir.

Collapsed boundary wall, former Chesterfield Hotel, Malkin Street, Chesterfield

As far as I can establish from the County Council's website, you are the officer with operational responsibility for discharging the authority's duties as a highway authority. If I am wrong in this deduction I would be grateful if you would pass this letter on to the officer who is responsible.

Earlier today I noticed that about 5 metres of the boundary wall of the car-park behind the former Chesterfield Hotel on Malkin Street had collapsed, I think within the last 24 hours. There is brick rubble partly blocking the pavement and a wooden post is creating a significant trip hazard. A further length of about 5 metres is leaning towards the pavement and appears to be prevented from falling only by posts supporting a County Council direction sign.

I would be grateful if you would arrange for the rubble to be removed as soon as possible and the wall made safe.

I hope the County Council will take all reasonable steps to recover the cost of this work from the owners of the property, Prestige Hotels (Midlands) Ltd, whose registered office is 23 Langmead Drive, Bushey Heath, Bushey WD23 4GD. This company has left the building empty since purchasing it several years ago and it is now not merely unsightly but increasingly a danger to the public. The Civic Society has been pressing for over a year to get the building demolished and the site cleared. The state of this boundary wall makes the matter more urgent.

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Yours faithfully

(Philip Riden)