



REDEFINING LUXURY IN THE CARIBBEAN

### **A personal message from Dave and Carol Ames**

We are delighted that we are able to write to you all and say that we won our recent court case in Ireland against Padraig O'Halloran. As you know, we have always maintained that progress on projects was slowed considerably by the actions of this individual and since 2010 we have not only fought to recover the misappropriated monies, but also to make up for the time lost on construction.

As the court judgement will reveal when it is published - hopefully next week - Jeremy Newman (formerly) and Martin MacDonald (currently) of Wilkins Kennedy were also noted by the judge to have worked with Padraig O'Halloran at a time when he was defrauding Harlequin.

In 2010, we had a choice to make: either accept the fraud or fight for justice. As a direct result of deciding to fight, Harlequin came under increased attack as these individuals sought to bring down the company by creating a highly defamatory website, built on wildly misleading and false accusations.

The reason they did this was simple: it was their intention to destroy Harlequin and to bring about its collapse, thus ending the court cases pending against them and the risk of them being held accountable for their actions. Manipulating the media with sensationalised disinformation, they brought Harlequin under scrutiny both with the media and Government authorities.

Over the years since we began action, we have suffered a barrage of abuse and threats which have emanated from these individuals. We hope now, with 31 days of trial behind us and with the verdict that Padraig O'Halloran is guilty of fraud and deceit, the truth is clear to all.

The damage done by these men has been significant, but now we are more resolute than ever to pursue them and seek redress, bringing them all to justice. Recent months have been exhausting as we battled to establish the truth and to ensure we sought the best solution to restructure the business and move forwards with renewed strength. The open Resorts are trading well and I hope that the proposed restructure we are working towards will enable construction work to begin again soon and the business to emerge stronger than ever.

We have received anonymous, threatening letters asking, "Was it worth it?" Well, we can now reply, "Yes it was!"

Thankfully we have always seen and felt the overwhelming support and understanding of you all, so we wish to once again express our sincere gratitude.

Sincerely,

Dave and Carol Ames

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