

(3) Father **RC-F41** is living under restrictions. The Independent Schools Inspectorate and the Department for Education have asked that he live away from the monastery. Discussions about this are continuing, but if the request is confirmed, Father Abbot has given oral assurances to the ISI that the monastery will comply with it. The Visitors believe that Father Abbot was right to give those assurances. They also believe that it is very likely that the request will be confirmed, and that Father **RC-F41** will therefore be required to live away. Should this happen, it will certainly cause much sadness. But I would make two points here. First, I invite members of the community to support Father Abbot in the very difficult decision he has made. Secondly, I ask you to remember that it would be extremely damaging to the whole community if there were to be any public expression of dissent on this issue.

(4): An allegation was made in relation to Father **RC-F46**. After investigation, the decision has been taken not to pursue this allegation, but the case has not been finally closed, and Father **RC-F46** continues to be subject to some restrictions, but less than before.

As I have indicated above, some members of the community have been living, or are still living, under restrictions imposed by Father Abbot at the suggestion of the safeguarding authorities. Such restrictions are imposed in the first place to protect children, but no less importantly to protect the person who is under restriction, to ensure that they are not put in a position where they might be unfairly accused. Furthermore, as the case of Father David shows, the consequences of breach of those conditions can cause immense damage to the community as a whole.

For that reason I want to state in unequivocal terms, and this will be the subject of an Act of Visitation, that any member of the community who is under such restrictions is bound, in virtue of the vow of obedience, to observe those restrictions in full, and failure to observe them could lead to serious disciplinary action being taken against that person. Quite apart from the danger to children caused by any failure to observe the restrictions, and apart from the danger to themselves, the Visitors feel it important to impress upon all the community that, in the present vulnerable state of the monastery, any breach of restrictions by a member of