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the book by **Simon DANCZUK** (Pages 84 and 85), Lancashire Constabulary have spoken to former officer **Tony ROBINSON**.

Mr ROBINSON worked for Special Branch and in 1977/1978 he received a telephone call from the security service, MI5, informing him they needed all files relating to **Cyril SMITH**. However, he never saw any MI5 officers remove any files. Also at this time the DPP had already had sight of the evidence gathered by Lancashire Constabulary. There is no evidence to corroborate that files were removed by MI5 or Special Branch, and even if there was, it is evident they were not all destroyed or buried as the 1969/1970 investigation is still fully documented.

In summary the allegations made in the 'Strange Case' article published by RAP in 1979 were investigated by Lancashire Constabulary in the 1970's and the file was sent to the DPP who made the decision not to prosecute. The file was then reviewed by CPS in 1998 and again the decision was made not to prosecute. Numerous people have been spoken to who have mentioned the RAP article and the rumours regarding **Cyril Smith**. The general consensus was that they thought it was just rumour and that the view of many, at that time, was that, what was said was done so to discredit the Liberal Party and **Cyril Smith**. The validity of the article was questioned by many, due to it being published so close to the election date.

14 **Breitbart**

In November 2012, the following e-mail was sent from **Matt BAKER** to **Paul TURNER-MITCHELL** titled Rochdale On Line anonymous E-mail:

OP CLIFTON
X119

Dear Newsdesk

You will have noted that Rochdale on Line is currently in the eye of a media storm regarding child abuse and cover ups. The story that has yet to break is the role of the council leader **Colin Lambert** in all of this. He was given files on the abuse at Knowl View School and **Cyril Smith** over 10 years ago but he did nothing because the Labour Party had done a deal with the Liberals to keep quiet about **Cyril**. This was in exchange for the Liberals keeping quiet on allegations that

RO-F7

DPA

DPA

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If you want a view on **Colin's** cover up and what he knew then get in touch with the man who blew the whistle on Knowl View. His name is **Martin DIGAN** and he can be contacted on DPA He will tell you how he gave files to **Colin** over 10 years ago and that **Colin** did nothing.

Mr TURNER-MITCHELL had previously received e-mails from **Matt BAKER**, who was **Simon DANCZUK's** Senior Parliamentary Assistant, asking him to leak the content to the press. Their relationship began in 2010 but ended acrimoniously in July 2014. **Mr TURNER-MITCHELL** states he had no recollection of receiving the e-mail in 2012. It was only when he restored his computer in 2014 that he found it. He contacted **Malcolm JOURNEAUX**, the founder of Rochdale On Line, to enquire whether he had in fact leaked the e-mail to him and was told there was no trace of any e-mail along those lines in the system.

OP CLIFTON
S64
R1U

On the 9th October 2014, the night of the Heywood by-election, a number of councillors and former councillors were present at Heywood Market Hall assisting the Liberal Democrat candidate. One of these was **Liz THIRSK** who brought up the e-mail which had been published on Breitbart's website on the 8th October 2014 with the names redacted. Breitbart is a conservative news and opinion website. She and her colleagues formed the opinion the article originated from **Matt BAKER** and was 'mischief making' at election time.

OP CLIFTON
S18
S18A

The conversation was overheard by **Richard MARBROW** Campaign Manager/Legal Agent and **Chris LOVELL** Campaign Manager. **Mr MARBROW** closed the conversation down as he considered it to be inappropriate. He later went onto the Breitbart website and saw the redacted article (names of **LAMBERT** and **DIGAN** removed and also telephone numbers) with the following addendums included:

OP CLIFTON
S3
S4
X21

The allegations over a cover-up "deal" were originally made to the Labour MP's staffer by a long since departed Liberal Democrat councillor. When asked to confirm that the original e-mail was indeed sent by him, the Labour staff member admitted it, which has raised the questions as to why no one contacted the police at the time.

A spokesperson for the Greater Manchester Police confirms to Breitbart London that the latest development was indeed being investigated, and has been passed on to a mammoth team of police working on all evidence that is now coming to light. The

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police would not speak about the specific e-mail in question but confirmed that they had received it and that it had been passed on to the investigation team.

Checks with GMP Press Office show that no enquiry was made by Breitbart for a statement. To date it has not been established who forwarded the e-mail to Breitbart.

Mr **LOVELL** and Mr **MARBROW** sought advice from Liberal Headquarters in London before reporting the matter to the Police.

Colin LAMBERT is clearly named within the email and information relating to his involvement and knowledge of allegations linked with KVS are documented within the report under subject heading '**Martin DIGAN**' above.

[RO-F7] is [DPA] [RO-F7]
[RO-F7] [DPA]
DPA

The matter was dealt with by **Lyndon PRICE**, Director of Social Services and Councillor **Pamela HAWTON** (deceased) Chair of education Committee. [RO-F7]
[RO-F7] [DPA]. In 2002 he was again forced to resign his position following an allegation of fraud and the prospect of being disciplined for gross misconduct. [DPA]
[DPA]

OP CLIFTON
R8N

Mr PRICE has told the inquiry team that around 1976 he received a formal complaint (he cannot recall from whom) that [RO-F7] was [DPA]
[DPA] **Mr PRICE** cannot remember [DPA] what the extent of the impropriety was. [RO-F7] was either sacked or resigned.

OP CLIFTON
S8B

Mrs HAWTON told the police that she believes in 1976/77, she was aware there was a discipline issue with [RO-F7] [DPA]
[DPA] [DPA]
[DPA]

OP CLIFTON
X219